





BERT  
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AUTHOR



*J. M. Shaw*

# JOURNAL

OF A

Tour from Montreal,

THRO'

BERTHIER AND SOREL, TO THE EASTERN TOWN-  
SHIPS OF GRANBY, STANSTEAD, COMPTON,  
SHERBROOKE, MELBOURNE, &c., &c.,  
TO PORT ST. FRANCIS.

BY HENRY TAYLOR,

AUTHOR OF THE SYSTEM OF CREATION, CONSIDERATIONS ON THE  
CANADAS, &c.

QUEBEC.

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*J. M. Martel*



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## PREFACE.

Having had occasion to pass thro' the principal of these Townships, to offer my work lately published in Montreal entitled "a Consideration of the past, present and future condition of the Canadas," and having thereby had opportunity of conversing with a number of the Inhabitants of the Townships, and being also much delighted with the appearance of this interesting young Country; I now, at the request of some of their Inhabitants, present to the Public, a concise narrative of my Journey, and have been chiefly led so to do, as it will afford the means of offering some reflections on subjects of importance and some ideas which may perhaps tend to advance the Agriculture Commerce, and public improvements of this beautiful section of the Lower Province.

Their Inhabitants are in general intelligent and industrious, two solid foundations for securing the growth and nourishment of that zeal and emulation in the practice of agricultural improvements and discovery, which have seldom failed to increase the wealth and prosperity of countries.

But as my Time did not allow me to acquire sufficient information to form a complete statistical account of the products and exports of each Township, which will indeed be more interesting in the course of some years than at present; the reader of this Essay will not look for such statistical account in it, but may consider it chiefly, as a narrative of the author's Tour, written in order to call the attention of the Public to a part of this Province which, (if its Inhabitants preserve their loyalty and attachment to the British Government and Cons-

titution ; and thus avail themselves of the solid advantages it will procure them,) will very probably become populous, fertile, and prosperous, and afford an example to their Canadian neighbours in the Seigniories, of what agricultural industry and zeal, directed by agricultural science, can effect.

At the close of the work, I have given some account of two meetings held lately in Quebec, on the interesting subject of the Public improvements of the Provinces, and have earnestly solicited the attention of the Inhabitants of the Townships towards adopting such measures respecting their representation in the united House of Assembly, as may enable these North American Provinces to acquire a very important branch of Trade and Commerce which will probably furnish a good market for the agricultural produce of the Townships.

I will observe that from the short period of my journey thro' them, some Topographical errors may perhaps be found in the following pages, yet I trust that the main object of the work, the promoting their interests and advancement will compensate it, and my object in writing this work be obtained.

HENRY TAYLOR.

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# JOURNAL

## OF A TOUR &c.

Having started from Montreal for Berthier and Sorel. I first give a short account of my trip there, previous to beginning my Journal thro' the above Townships.

August 16th 1839.—Berthier is a small village situated opposite Sorel. In it I found a pretty good market and several wharves, and saw a field of wheat near the Village apparently all eat up by the fly; a Canadian told me it was all eat up round Berthier; another living 12 miles off, said it was not much eat there. Put up at an Inn kept by a man named Lord, an Acadian by descent, his grandfather being one of those French Settlers in Nova Scotia who came to Quebec at the time, Nova Scotia was taken by the English. This Landlord had a fine family, of wife and 5 or 6 children, and exhibited in his conduct the feature which is characteristic of the Canadian habitant, great fondness for his children; a poor infant of his had been run over by a cart, but escaped with the wheel grazing its head, and it was surprising to see the tenderness of the Father, mother and the rest of the children to it; the accident happened a week before this date, the child was still ill and irritable but

the patience with which it was nursed did the heart good to see it.

The soil about this Village is far better than that at the opposite side of the river, at Sorel ; and the fields adjoining are in a good state of cultivation at least for Canadian farmers. The Seigneur Mr. Cuthbert has a fine Farm and seat on the river Berthier. There is a very neat Canadian Church with two Steeples : Several handsome Houses, to say, Doctor Baby's, Mr. Ferries, &c., and several old country settlers a few miles off the Village.

August 12th,—Crossed over to Sorel in a canoe.

This is a handsome little Village situated on the junction of the river Richelieu or Chambly with the St. Lawrence. Col. Well's cottage, is at the mouth of the Richelieu. There was a Camp of Indians at the River's edge, and the sight of many neat and white habitant farm Houses up the river looked delightful. There is a ship yard with several decayed Steam Boats opposite the Village, among which is the John Bull, just burnt, supposed by accident, many persons said to have perished, which it is to be hoped will serve as a warning to all others to keep up strict regulations on the subject of fire.

The Village is well laid out on a dry level spot, and has a neat looking Fort for its protection. The Governor's Country residence a little distance up the Chambly with a farm attached. The Blue Mountain opposite the Village has a good effect on the Landscape. Asked an Indian if it was Berthier opposite. He could not tell me ; The march of intellect not having reached all over the world, yet.

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Sunday, 13th.—This day took a walk about a mile East, down the St. Lawrence; was glad to find plenty of rye, indian corn, and buck wheat, oats and potatoes, growing. The soil is too light and Sandy here for wheat, but it has turned out this year, the habitants are as well, or better off, than in other parts of the Province, where wheat has been sown, and mostly eat up by the fly. Went into a house observing to the man I was glad he appeared to have a "bonne récolte" (good crop) his wife replied they had need, for they had thirteen children to feed out of it. There is a handsome stone Canadian Church quite nigh the Town. The congregation just coming out, many dressed in old country clothes not withstanding Mr. Papineau's advice. Went to the English Church, a small neat building well attended by the Governor Sir John Colborne's family, and many people genteely dressed. An excellent original sermon given by Mr. Anderson, son of the late Mr. John Anderson, of Quebec. In the afternoon took a walk two miles up the Richelieu, saw plenty of rye just cut down which I find they sow in the fall of the year.

The Geology of this Village is alluvial. An entire sand bank in some places nigh 40 feet high all in layers of various thickness. It is said to extend about a mile East; a Canadian told me it extended to Poteau de Beure about a league and a half to West, which would make the sand bank in which the Village is built, about six miles long from East to West. Has this been produced by an ancient lake, by the Mosaic deluge, or by the St. Lawrence waters? The bank is perhaps too nigh the surface of the earth to require a reference to the deluge for its cause. It seems difficult to con-

ceive so thick a body of sand should be deposited from the waters of a tranquil lake ; I am therefore inclined to think it has been formed gradually by the current of the St. Laurence having formerly flowed over the spot the bank stands on, and deposited its sand on it.

14th. Monday went to see Capt. Boyd's ship yard who is building a fine ship there. In my walk met a poor Canadian with only one leg ; having had the other carried away by a cable on board a steam boat. There is a steam Mill here for grinding grain with a fulling and carding Mill, trip hammer, all for sale. There is also a small beer brewery and a Methodist Chapel building.

Met with a Canadian woman who had a curious affection of the nerves of the face, every part of which was in perpetual motion, asked the woman of the house if she had her senses. She said she was very reasonable ; but it hurt her to talk much, thus it would appear that the external nerves may entirely lose their tone, and the internal, yet remain tolerably sound.

15th. Met with a man who told me the Canadians here were the lowest race of any in Canada, as they were mostly intermarried with Indians who had been employed in the North West trade, they live in small huts, each having a small emplacement for which they pay the Seigneur Mr. Wells one dollar a year ; the labourer here gets only 1s. 6d. or 2s. a day in Summer.

16th. Weather bright and sultry. Breakfasted with a respectable old Canadian lady going to her

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farm  $4\frac{1}{2}$  leagues down the St. Lawrence. She says in contradiction to what I was told as above ; that the whole of the road along the river, the country is sand except a few spots, till coming to her farm  $4\frac{1}{2}$  leagues off, but that back in the concessions the soil is strong and good "terre jaune et grise," grey and yellow soil.

A french Canadian gentleman breakfasted here, a man of some extended ideas and information ; conversing with him on the subject of the future government of the province, he said he did not think a union of the provinces would take place that the general wish of the people was for responsible government. I observed I did not think they would get that, the Colonial Minister Lord John Russel had said it could not be, as long as this was a colony of Great Britain, and I observed that if the Union did not take place, the province would probably remain under the Government of the Governor and Council, and that I had heard old Canadians say, the country was never better off than when formerly under such government ; to this he agreed, and said there had been great oppositon on the part of the Canadians to the representative form ; but he was of opinion that great changes must be made in the future government or there would be serious times ; not he said that the Canadians would revolt ; but they would not be satisfied without a government responsible to the people which he added, it ought to be. I said that was true, but it was not to the people of Canada only, but to the people of the Empire ; and *that thro'* the channel of the Imperial Parliament which is the Constitutional Court for that responsibi-



lity, appointed and agreed to by the British nation. That every Governor was responsible to the people in this sense, through the means of the Imperial Parliament to whom the people of these colonies could apply in case of any important occasion arising, to render that application and complaint necessary, and which indeed should only be resorted to on very urgent and important necessity ; for instance in case of very great misconduct or incapacity of the Governor and his Council ; and the conviction of a great Majority of the people of the province that he should be recalled. In proof that redress could be obtained against the misconduct of a Governor of a Colony, I instanced the case of the late trial of the Governor of Gibraltar for forcibly entering a citizen's house there, where damages were recovered by civil action in England. He said Gibraltar was only a fort. The fact is, there is party yet remaining among the Canadians who would wish to throw off their independence on Great Britain ; and it is very easy to see what blindness, they labour under in this respect. They would consider themselves as a nation of themselves " Nation Canadienne," which they have no right whatever to do, being an integral part of the British Nation.

They do not foresee the obstacles that would prevent their maintaining their independence if they had it ; without an armed force, without money, or surplus produce, sufficient to raise and pay one, without a single ship to protect their river and coast how easily would some one of the Great European powers be tempted to invade the province. France in particular

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who had once possession of it, who has a numerous and unoccupied army, who could probably obtain a powerful party among the Canadians favorable to her views would probably soon get possession; and the Canadians soon find cause to regret the loss of British Liberty and protection. It is not likely France would grant the Canadians more liberty than she does to the People of France itself; and we know that *there* the trial by Jury for political offences is done away with; moreover the leading men of the Canadians appear to forget there is a large population in the province of British descent who claim and will insist on British protection.

15th. Conversed with Mr. Dixon of Three Rivers. He says the block of sand in which Sorel stands reaches down the Lake St. Peter, nigh three leagues, after which the soil is alluvial to St. Francis.

I had this day a curious conversation with the agent for the Seigneurie of Sorel, a good looking fat man of about 65 years, not married. I offered him copies of my work on the Canadas, says he, "I know so much of the Canadas, I want to know no more of them; I was born in them; and I hear they are re-calling Sir John Colborne, and I do not know what will be the consequence." I told him the intention of the work was to advance the agriculture of the French Canadians, that I was of opinion the wheat fly was occasioned or retained in the soil by the miserable system of agriculture followed by them for 200 years. He seemed to agree to this, but said the Canadians would not improve their agriculture; I told him the plan was approved of by Sir John Colborne's Gov-

ernment ; and that I believed it would so meet the interest of the Canadians, that they would assist and forward it. I have since reflected that the very circumstance of this destruction of most of the wheat crops in the province by the fly will probably, if it continue, open their eyes to see the necessity of adopting a better system, and providence which generally brings good out of bad, may probably effect the introduction of it by this very means.—This day returned to Montreal.

16th. This day set off for the Eastern Townships and in order to give the reader a general idea of them, I insert an Extract from a Tract called, “ Information respecting the Eastern Townships.”

“ The Eastern Townships are situate inland, on the south side of the River St. Laurence, and are comprised within the 45th and 47th degrees of north latitude, and the 70th and 73d degrees of west longitude, their boundaries being the seigniories bordering the St. Lawrence and Richelieu Rivers, on the north and west ; the line. dividing the Province from the States of Vermont and New-Hampshire, on the south ; and the River Chaudière on the east.

“ This tract is easily accessible from Quebec, Three Rivers or Montreal, by the several roads from those places, its distance being, in many points, not more than thirty miles from the River St. Lawrence, while the center of the country may be reached by a journey of less than seventy miles of land travelling from the ports at which passengers from Europe are landed. There is also easy communication with New-York, by way of the Hudson River and Lake Champlain, or with Boston, by the great mail route from that place.

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"The number of Townships is Eighty ; containing about one hundred square miles, or sixty-four thousand acres each, forming a total of upwards of five million of acres of land. They compose the District of St. Francis, and parts of the districts of Montreal, Quebec and Three Rivers ; and are further divided into the Counties of Megantic, Drummond, Missisquoi, Shefford, Stanstead, and Sherbrooke. The three last mentioned are those which at present offer the best prospects to the enterprising settler. The Counties of Shefford, Stanstead, and Sherbrooke, are generally well adapted for cultivation, the waste lands being in very small proportion ; and although the features of the country are such as to present the most varied and picturesque scenery, they, in few cases only, prohibit the free use of the plough. The lands are everywhere well watered by springs and brooks, and several considerable rivers traverse the tract. The St. Francis, and tributaries, the Nicolet, the Bécancour, and the Chaudière, with numerous lakes, some of which are of considerable extent, afford their natural advantages at present, and offer the prospect of their being, at a future time, converted into extensive channels of water communication with the sea.

"The climate of the Eastern Townships is one of the most healthy of the continent, disease being unfrequent, and the intermittent fevers, so destructive in Upper Canada, and parts of the United States, wholly unknown. From Cholera also, this district has been entirely free ; no one instance having occurred, although, in the summers of 1832 and 1834, other portions of the Province were visited with great

severity. The winter is similar to that of Upper Canada in the degree of cold experienced ; but the weather is less changeable, and more snow falls in the course of the season, preserving the ground from the effects of the frost, and furnishing excellent roads for the transport of agricultural produce from the most distant and least settled parts of the country. Field-operations commence in April, and are usually continued until December ; and both summer and winter are remarkable for the small number of days on which work cannot be performed out of doors.

“The soil is generally a loam in its varieties, with a substratum of gravel ; and the surface is every where covered with a vegetable mould of some depth, formed from the decayed timber and leaves of the forest, and precluding the necessity for artificial manure for many years. All the crops usually cultivated in Great Britain and Ireland, are found to succeed here, and to yield large returns to the farmer. Wheat, Barley, Rye, Oats, Beans and Pease, Indian Corn, Turnips, Potatoes, Hemp, Flax, Clover, and Meadow Hay, are all raised in abundance ; and the country is naturally adapted for grazing Horned Cattle, Sheep, and Horses of the best breeds.

“The principal Exports have hitherto been Horned Cattle, Horses, Pork, Butter, Cheese, and Pot-ash, the last of which is manufactured by the settler, in the progress of clearing his land, affording an early return for his labour, and the means of procuring supplies of provisions and necessities for continuing his improvements.

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which is within a very easy distance, offer, in general, a ready sale for all kinds of produce, at the same time that they permit the settler to lay in his stock of clothes, tools, and other articles of home manufacture, at prices, in many instances, lower than those paid in Great Britain.

“ The roads communicating with the Eastern Townships, on the south side of the River St. Lawrence, are three :—the first from Quebec, by St. Nicholas, to Sherbrooke, or to Shipton ; the second from Montreal, through Chambly and Granby, to Sherbrooke, or Stanstead ; and thirdly, the shortest and most practicable route, from Port St. Francis, along the banks of the River St. Francis, through Drummondville and Melbourne, also to Sherbrooke. The distance from Quebec to Nelson, the first Township reached by that route, is forty miles ; from thence to Sherbrooke is eighty miles. From Montreal to Granby is forty-eight miles ; thence to Sherbrooke by the new line, forty-four miles. From Port St. Francis to Wendover, the distance is thirty miles ; from thence to Melbourne twenty-seven ; thence to Sherbrooke twenty-four miles. On the two last routes mail stages ply three times a week, carrying passengers for about three pence per mile, including a portion of luggage ; but waggons and carts may be procured for the conveyance of families and heavy luggage, at much more reasonable rates. A cart to carry eight hundred weight may generally be engaged for one pound ten shillings, for the whole distance, from Port St. Francis to Sherbrooke, or at the rate of three shillings and nine pence per hundred weight. These rates are ex-

pected to be very much reduced ; and such measures are proposed to be taken as will secure Emigrant's, proceeding to the Company's Lands, from deception and fraud upon the road.

" With the view of providing a Port for the Eastern Townships, at the point most eligible for the landing of passengers and goods, and for the exportation of the productions of the Country, the Company have erected Wharves, Stores, and Houses for the reception of Emigrants, together with a large Inn, Blacksmiths' Shops, &c. at Port *St. Francis*, situate on the south shore of the St. Lawrence, and at the distance of nine miles from Three Rivers. Vessels from sea, and the steam boats plying between Quebec and Montreal, may land passengers and luggage at this place, with great facility, and with the shortest possible detention. Houses have been provided for affording temporary shelter to such Families as may land here on their way to the Company's Lands ; and means will thus be furnished of making their arrangements for the performance of the remainder of the journey, without being subjected to extra expense. An Inn is already established, and further accomodations will shortly be afforded at this place, for the better classes of Settlers. The wharves, and other works in progress, will offer immediate employment to such as may require it.

" Emigrants proposing to proceed to the Eastern Townships, are recommended to land at Port *St. Francis*, as the most convenient point from which to proceed inland, otherwise they may reach that place from Quebec, by steam boat, in twelve hours. From Port *St. Francis* they will take either the stages or

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other conveyances by land to *Sherbrooke*, or to any other part of the country. The Road will be found generally good, and much superior to those in other parts of the Province. Inns will be met with at convenient distances, affording excellent accommodations at reasonable charges, and the means of conveyance can be procured at almost every point."

16th. On the road from Longueuil to Chambly, the soil is strong and clayey (*terre grise*,) all along I found Hay not yet cut, Oats, Barley, Wheat, the last eat up by the fly, and some rusted, farms both sides the road ; bargained while on the Horse Boat with a Man and his wife to take me to Chambly, the wife said there was no room in the cart ; but a looker on said he would take me there if I would pay his fare for the Boat, one shilling, for which he carried me 12 miles ; cheap travelling ; found him a clear headed Canadian, lived 14 leagues from Montreal, at Petit Maska, said the land there was very bad and sandy ; told me a Farm in Longueuil could not be bought for less than 30,000 francs, which at 10d. is £1250 3 arpents by 30 long is 90. He said a Farm of same size at Little Maska, could be bought for 2000 francs, about £84 only,—amazing difference, as great part of it must be owing to the inferiority of the soil. Now we know that in England sandy Lands have been made very good by carting clay on them. This agricultural discovery was made, I believe about 70 years ago by an old Scotchman, a Steward on the Estate of an English Nobleman in Lincolnshire. There was a very extensive tract of sand in the Estate, which was of no use but as a Rabbit Warren. The old Steward, hav-



occasion to make a Garden there, he thought himself of effecting this by mixing the sand with clay, found it to answer well, and having convinced himself of the discovery by trying it on a small Field for Grain, which completely answered his expectations; and having saved some money, he applied to the owner of the Estate to know what he would take for the Rabbit Warren. What in the name of Wonder can you do with the Rabbit Warren John? said his Lordship. Well my Lord, says the keen Scotchman, that is an affair that belongs to none but *mysel*. I ha' served your Lordship faithfully *mony* a year and would wish to know of ye'll sell me the Warren?—His Lordship sold it to him at a fair price, and the story which I heard many years ago from an old agricultural friend! Mr. John Patterson, of London, goes on to say, the old Steward not only succeeded in making a very lucrative concern of his purchase; but was the means of improving the Lands of a great part of the County, many parts of which being too sandy, the Farmers followed the example of the sagacious Scotchman.

The same good effects have been found from manuring Land with clay in the Parish of Batiscan in this Province. The people there some years ago found their light soil so exhausted, no doubt by their mode of Canadian farming, that they could not raise Wheat enough for their Families, and whether by accident or by information I do not know; finding clay banks in the Parish they tried it on the Land, and found it produced as fine crops of wheat as they could wish for.

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length because I have met with several places in the Eastern Townships which would be equally benefited by it, and it will serve to refer to, when we come to that part of our Journey.

Slept this night 12 miles from Longueuil at Booth's an American, good House, and fine large garden, well filled with every thing, was glad to see this first instance of industry and thought it a pity the Canadians do not follow the example. A Canadian would probably have been contented with making the garden half the size : A fine little river which crosses the Rail Road above, passes in front of the House, and runs into the Richelieu.—Rode to Chambly.

This Village is beautifully situated on the River of that name in a capacious Basin round part of which the Village extends, and the Village of Pointe Olivier, is on the other side with a Canadian Church. The Canal from St. Johns enters the Basin at Chambly. This day on offering a copy of my *Considerations on the Canadas* for sale to a Store keeper, he enquired concerning the Politics of the Author, whether they were liberal ? He was a french Canadian and apparently one of the Papineau School. On my observing that the Canadians had opposed the introduction of the Constitution of 1791 into the Province ; he said they were not opposed to it, but wished to have a better Legislative Council, and that it ought to be elective ; on my observing that the original intention of the Constitution was, that the Seigneurs should sit in the Council ; he said that the Seigneurs were an ignorant set of men, it would have been better for Canada if there had never been any in it, and that the Members of the Council should be men of talents,

I observed that a Morning paper of Montreal was of opinion all the French Canadians ought to be disfranchised on account of the late rebellions ; but that the work called *Considerations on the Canadas* did not agree to that, but only, that the Canadians should send a limited number of representatives to the United House of Assembly ; he said the Canadians would insist on having a representation. Thus it would appear that the late revolutionary leaders have been suffered to disseminate their republican ideas thro' the Province, until the ancient respect, the Canadians had for their Seigneurs or higher classes ; is in some measure obliterated, thus paving the way for the general undermining of the peace, good order and security of Society ; for we have the example and experience of England in the time of Cromwell and of France during their revolution of 1789 to shew the effects of the destruction of the upper or conservative orders of Society.

Both these revolutions brought the people of both Countries to the lowest and most disgraceful state of Society until they were glad to find repose and security in their former forms of Government.

In these Provinces there is not the shadow of a cause for bringing their Society into such a dangerous situation ; and it will probably require the strong and determined energy of the Government, assisted by the lovers of the peace and advancement of these Provinces to prevent it.

There is one Canadian and one English Church here. The Artillery Barracks is a fine stone Building. There is another Barracks building of wood adjoining

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it ; and several handsome houses. The Barracks of the Dragoon Guards contains 250 Dragoons and Officers Barracks, Col. Cathcart, commanding.

Wednesday . I went to see the Locks of the new Canal. There are eight or nine, a rise of nine feet between each stone Lock. The water is in the Canal to within a gun shot of the Basin, the ground to which is nearly excavated, a quantity of wood is piled up on the Banks of the Canal having been brought down it. Thus Boats and small Schooners will be enabled to get to the St. Lawrence, from Lake Champlain as there will be 6 feet water in the Canal. At a Meeting lately held by the Merchants in Quebec for the express purpose of adopting measures for encouraging the completion of the Canals from Upper Canada, and also the Chambly Canal ; we were informed that Steam Boats have been lately built drawing only four feet water which have even made long voyages in open sea, and there is no doubt therefore, Steam Boats will be constructed for navigating the Canal from which as was stated at these Meetings, the trade of the Lower Province will be greatly increased.

Called one morning at the Artillery Barracks, saw some Officers, offered them copies of my Work on the Canadas, and was surprised to find their total indifference on the subject. Went to the Dragoon Barrack, saw Col. Cathcart a very respectable intelligent looking man, after looking into the Title Page, and subscription List ; he bought the work directly ; on quitting him offered it to three other Officers in the Barrack yard who appeared equally indifferent respecting the Province as the above mentioned, adding that if I

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could publish a Book which would occasion their being recalled, they would buy a hundred of them. I observed I was a little surprised they did not like the Country, asked if they did not find it a healthy one, one observed it was healthy enough. This dislike would appear to be owing to the natural love of home, for certainly the service and hardship they have seen here is nothing compared to what British armies have seen elsewhere. Is this love of home intended by nature to keep men confined to their place of nativity? this cannot be, or so many would not roam to all parts of the World. This dislike then is probably owing to the restlessness of human nature which until it finds an immortal and satisfactory existence in the next world; must seek to pacify this restlessness in the present, by active employment or by continual change of scenery.

This day August 29th. Walked to the East end of the Village to see Mr. Hall's Flour Mill, it goes by water on the Chambly; above stairs is a Cloth Manufactory, carried on by Mr. Wollett. He makes about 12000 yards Cloth per annum, sells it from 3s. to 7s. per yard. Makes also fine Cloth. Mr. Hall is a member of the Council; he is said to have made a large fortune by Mills, Lands, &c., in this place. The family of the late Col. De Sallebery, who distinguished himself in defeating an American corps last war, is also here. Mr. Hall is Seigneur of Chambly, Madame De Sallebery's Seigneurie is on the opposite shore where their Mill is.

A gentleman supped at the Inn I was at, who said it was 26 years since he had been in Chambly, and he

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did not observe much increase in the Village since then. This is singular as all Canada doubles in about 20 years, and the soil round Chambly is good and strong. The Canal is dug out of a clay soil, saw some banks, 30 feet high. When it is completed for Navigation it is probable Chambly will make up for lost time. The stone fort occupied by the Artillery was built long ago as a defence against the Indians.

My Landlord here is a singular American, full of sprightliness; puts in for contracts for Government. He has married a second wife, but told me at parting, he would give his two arms if he could recal his first to life; being his "first love." So strong is Nature.

Rode to St. Césaire in the Stage, paid 4s. 4½d. for 16 miles. The soil to within a few Miles of Batchelor's Inn, is still "Terre forte" strong clay, but this side Batchelors, for a few Miles, it is sandy, till we get down into the Valley of St. Césaire; here there is a "rang double" a double row of Farms, one each side the road.

The Country from Chambly, after riding a few miles affords a scene of plentiful crops; Hay, Pease, Barley and Wheat the latter all rusted. The wheat, fly does not seem to prevail much beyond Chambly. About Rougemont, this side of St. Césaire, several Americans are settled, under good cultivation. They appear to prefer high dry soils to the lower lands or "Terres planes," the favorite of the Canadians. On the road to St. Césaire is a french Chapel, and one (I beleive) Methodist, at St. Césaire, and a stone Canadian Church building: The soil at the Valley of St. Césaire is good and strong, much the

same as that round Chambly.—Put up at Carden's Tavern, a comfortable Irishman with a decent wife and small family of 3 or 4 children, two grown up. He has two Farms, and owns the house he lives in, has been 18 years in the Province, and is building a new large Tavern next the old one, a proof that patient industry will work its way in this Country, as in most others, and presents a good lesson to some of less patience than my landlord.

August, 30th. Took a walk to Rougemont, sold four copies of the Considerations on the Canadas to the American Settlers; they appear to have acted loyalty, during the late disturbance. One of them told me, that about 150 Canadians rose at that time, and coming down the road making dreadful yellings, insisted on all the Americans joining them. But having heard of their design, and being unable to resist such numbers; he, and the other Americans had concealed themselves; and the Canadians retired.

Afterwards about 400 soldiers, came into the Village, disarmed the rebels, and took their provisions from them: He says they still feel very sore there at; and some said if the Americans from the States came to help them, they would rise again.

On my enquiring of a Canadian woman at a Farm in the Village, as to the cause of the complaints of the Canadians, she said the Seigneurs and the Priests took almost every thing they had from them, and that their Seigneur at St. Charles was particularly rigid in his demand. She added that if these things could be redressed, they would rather live under the English Government than under the Americans. I told

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her the Lots et Ventes would probably be soon done away with. She said she should be very "content."

This day three deserters from the 66th Regt. appeared in the woods, near St. Césaire ; the Police stationed there, went out after them, but did not find them ; they were however afterwards taken at Pointe aux Pélé, on information of a Canadian.

This evening, hired a Canadian cart to take me to Yamaska Mountain,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles, paid him 3s. 6d. This man made the same complaint about the Seigneurs, as the woman before mentioned, he said the 26<sup>me</sup> or 26th part to the Priest added to the demand of the Seigneur, hurt the poor much. I told him the Tithe in England was one tenth part, at which he appeared much surprized.

The soil, most part of the way to Yamaska, where settled, is strong and good ; there is however about 60 arpents of woods and swampy land. At 7 o'clock in the evening arrived at the Mountain.

31st. This day morning, on waking found it quite close to my window, a romantic sight. The farms are beautifully settled round it, mostly Americans. Went to the English Church ; heard a sound and good Sermon from Mr. Johnston, the Minister ; afterwards took a walk up to the Mountain till I came to a great rocky precipice ; vast bodies of the rock having disintegrated and slipt down, probably occasioned by fissures and frozen water in them ; the power of frost being well known in Geology to have that effect.

Sept. 4th. Wednesday, Arrived at Granby, first Village in the Eastern Townships ; had a companion in the Stage, a right down loyal volunteer, Capt. or



Major Gordon ; appeared a man of well informed mind had been in the army ; he spoke highly of the youth in the Townships, was warm in the just praise of the courage and resolution of the British population of Lower Canada ; says the Townships are fast increasing in settlement but had few Emigrants this year, the cause of which was I believe chiefly owing to the late disturbances. Conversing on the United States he was of opinion, that things will come to a crisis there bye and bye, as the people of property are tired of the growing dominion of Mob Government ; That no real freedom of opinion there can be openly expressed, except on one side of the question, which confirms the same idea I had foretold in the 2nd number of my *Considerations of the Canadas* in Chapter 5th. page 44, on the advantages of representative union, namely "The U. States may certainly be considered as having presented to the World a prominent instance of the advantages of representative Union ; although it must be confessed that the rise and gradual increase of late years of a most licentious spirit among that people both in their domestic concerns and most especially in the late treatment of these provinces by a part of her population, gives strong indications to believe, that unless they retrace their steps, by the enactment of wise and salutary laws for the accomplishment of that end, some disastrous events must ensue in that country proving that even liberty itself, the greatest gift of Heaven, may be abused, and if not preserved within the bounds of reason, moderation and religion, may produce the misery or ruin as well as the welfare and prosperity of a nation."

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Major Gordon allows the soil of the Townships is rather gravelly and stony, but that there are some clayey tracts of land among them. The soil on the road from Yamaska while day light lasted appeared to be so ; but the road to Granby is mostly wood land, timber mixed.

The Village of Granby is small but well situated in rather elevated ground with a fine land-slope on the right side of it, one Grist, one Saw Mill, and two Potasheries. Took a walk to the Scotch settlement two miles to the left of the Village ; found five or six Irish and Scotch settlers, soil all the way to the Village sandy and slaty ; the cultivated lands very uneven but the crops of Wheat far less rusted than any from here to Montreal, and not much attacked by the fly, Oats allowed by the settlers very good crop, Potatoes large and mealy. One old Scotchman was only two years from Scotland ; first year, he and his two sons cleared about 8 acres land, now under Oats and looking well ; two relations of his had been here 8 years ; had about 50 acres cleared. They turn their ashes into blacksalts and find the leached ashes to make good manure. They allow the usual produce of the land ( new ) is, only 10 to 12 bushels per acre of Wheat ; a proof of the weakness of the soil or climate for this grain, in this part of the Townships at least. In the Village of Granby are three or four good Stores.—Last night the sky was covered with streamers, say Hydrogen Gas burning. The night was very hot probably increased by this cause ; speaking to a French Canadian on the subject of this appearance he said it was “ *signe de Guerre* ” “ sign

of War." I told him it was more likely "signe de Pluie" "sign of Rain", that it was Hydrogen Gas in the air burning and that it must produce watery Vapours. He said enquiringly "Oui" is it so?

There is I believe an idea of having a rail road from Granby to Montreal, which if easily practicable, would no doubt greatly facilitate the transport of the produce of the Townships there, and the same advantage would also tend to increase their settlement, as that of all new Countries is much in proportion to the facility of getting to a market.

Thursday, Sept. 5th. 4 o'clock in the morning, quit Granby in the Stage for Waterloo, fare 2s. 6d. after a few miles of cleared farms with good Crops, Oats and Potatoes, found the land wooded for the most part till within a few miles of Waterloo. The air from Granby to the Mountain had been rather chilly but on arriving at the Mountain a most remarkable and sudden increase of temperature took place; the Coachman said he believed it was owing to burning some Timber in the woods, but we were at least a couple of miles without seeing any smoke or smelling any, and I conclude it must have been owing to some shelter afforded by the Mountain to the cold Easterly morning wind. If so it would perhaps designate this small tract of land as possessing some advantage for cultivation and settlement. The soil within a few miles of Waterloo improves, becomes more of a yellow loam, gravelly indeed, but not so stony as round Granby. The Timber much improved in hard wood, and as the Coachman observed the Country around here was splendid; fine Crops of Wheat, but unluckily

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rusted ; Oats fine, and Potatoes plenty : at Cutler's Farm, took in a young woman and a child at her breast, she was a Canadian, of English or American extraction ; said she had been married 20 years being only 14 when married ; had nine children, her husband an American lives a mile or two from the road had 200 acres of Land 100 cleared, 9 or 10 head of Cattle ; felt an agreeable sensation at riding in a carriage with a Country woman of mine, especially one so productive ; and was particularly pleased with the care and fears she seemed to have for the safety of her child. She watched the Coachman's driving all along the road, always telling him that if he upset, she would not pay him his fare.

At 7 o'clock. I came in sight of the neat little Village of Waterloo, which is partly surrounded apparently by a Pond or small Lake, and has several water privileges.

Friday, 6th. Took a walk thro' the Village, there is a water Mill, and clothing Manufactory, a Tannery, three Potasheries, Saw Mill, &c. On the rising ground above and beyond it, called at a house, and found a Man making Shoes. Said he had been 30 years in the Canadas, but was going to Ohio, that he found the climate too severe and the Crops so bad, that he had sold one half his Farm, which half comprised 80 acres a house & barn nigh 40 feet for £200, and was willing to sell the remainder at same rate. We shall presently contrast this man's account of the Canadas with that of an old settler at Stukeley who gives a very different one of them.

On the top of this Hill, I saw as fine a prospect as I

have yet met with ; on the right side of the road the view is bounded by what is called here, Mountains, some of them cultivated half way up. The Village of Frost is just below in the Valley, and the adjacent Country is interspersed with Farms. This day took a walk to the Village of Frost. It has as fine a little Church as I have seen in either of the Canadas : The fine steeple resembles that of the New Church building 2 years ago in Hamilton, U. C. : Called at the Guard House or Barracks for the Volunteers, saw Captain Wood who shewed me the arms of the Cavalry arranged in fine order. Walking back to Waterloo I observed on the hill above it in the distance among the Mountains on the right, a small Lake in the Village of Broome.

As far as our Journey has proceeded the reader will observe the Wheat has been pretty generally rusted thro' the Country, from this side of Chambly and I have met with but few complaints of the fly as yet in this Township, but whether it is owing to want of sufficient closeness of observation to detect the fly, or that it has not reached thus far, is hard to say; in either case the circumstance of the Wheat being so injured thro' the Country is indeed not very pleasant, and seems to diminish the cheerfulness occasioned by good Crops. I believe however the loss will not exceed in general one third the entire Crop, and if the other grain, Corn and Potatoes prove abundant the loss will not be much felt here.

On Monday 9th Sept. Walked to the next line of Settlement, East of Waterloo about two miles thro' a well wooded Country, and apparently good soil,

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mostly of a red colour formed by the decomposition of the red Slate or Tufa Rock. There is here a Grist Mill and Saw Mill owned by a woman in the States. Mr. Dampier an English gentleman has a very good Farm on the hill above, on the Sherbrooke road, consisting of 250 acres Land, 150 of which are cleared, and under cultivation. Was treated very politely by him, and apparently an amiable family growing well up. Has two fine Boys who appear to make themselves serviceable on the farm. He says the great drawback and impediment to farming here, is the cost of labour ; pays ten dollars per month and found, and that he will lose twenty-five pounds this year by rusted Wheat. This gentleman is respectably situated in this County, and I believe is distantly related to the celebrated Adml. Dampier.

It certainly is a thing well calculated to uphold the estimation of the Townships, that such men form establishments in them, which must serve to attract other Settlers round them, and as they have besides greater means of information as to the most modern improvements in agricultural science, they may set a good example therein to their poorer neighbours in agricultural affairs.

Tuesday, 10th. Quit Waterloo for Stukely, 6 miles per Stage, after passing Frost Village, pretty well settled Country to Stukeley ; passed a Tannery this side the Village, soil, loamy sand and gravelly, the road pretty good. The Post Office is opposite the little Village "if Village it may be called which size has none," and no Tavern, therefore I applied to the first man I met after leaving the Stage, for lodging. He

agreed to board me for fifteen pence a day till the Stage came thro' again. 3 meals, tea &c., found him a good quiet creature but had met with misfortunes. Had been forty years with his wife settled in the Province, living at Stanstead where they had a farm, but like too many others wishing to go "West" he sold it, and some thing having detained him, he took a contract on the Sherbrooke road and lost all the money by it, that his Farm sold for, thus, verifying the old proverb of the rolling stone. Saw a good crop of Oats in a field here better stacked up to save from rain than usual.

Walked this day up the Stanstead road toward the outlet, called at one of the richest Farmers in the Townships, a relation of Col. Knoultons; has wintered 100 head Cattle. By persevering industry in farming and in breeding Cattle, he acquired the command of money, and is said to hold a number of Farms in the Country on Mortgage having lent money on them. I mention this anecdote as a counterpart of what I have heard on this road, that many persons are about or have quitted the Province being dissatisfied with it, and probably deficient in the qualities of industry and prudence possessed by Mr. Knoulton. We have stated an anecdote on this subject in page 24. Mr. Knoulton has been above 40 years in the Townships. There is a fine Saw Mill at Stukely owned by a man who has a Grist Mill at the outlet.

Friday, 13th Sept. Rode on from Stukely, 6 miles, sandy soil begins here and extends about half a mile, then Gravelly red soil returns, and after passing

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Willard's Farm, mostly woods. End of six mile from Stukely entered the Township of Bolton.

The man who is driving me from Stukely is a man of fifty years of age, a demure reserved looking person full of the "antique" lives a few miles off the road at the outlet. On seeing the *Considerations of the Canadas* he immediately said he would drive me there for a set of the work. On my getting into the Cart he said there were now two Authors in it ; as he had composed and got printed 1000 copies of Hymns which he sold for 10d. a piece, and he had nigh 1000 more ready in manuscript for printing. If this man is a sample of the religious disposition of the Townships they are not deficient. About midway to the outlet, he stopt at a Farm to give water to his horse and to get a bite for ourselves : found the woman of the house ill of the dropsy. My carrier after taking his meal very patiently, said he was anxious to learn from the woman if she had yet felt the change of heart so desirable in a Christian ? she answered she believed she had ; that during her illness she had suffered much pain, but had prayed for Grace to enable her to support her existence during it. The old man gave her a lecture on futurity and we took leave. While riding up a very steep hill where the road is cut thro' the rock, I said I would alight and walk, but he said he had loaded his cart too much behind and wished me to stay in the cart to balance the load which I did accordingly. The horse after great exertion stopt, and was backing fast down the hill. In a short time the old man chocked the wheels and stopt the Cart. When the horse got over the height I observed this was rather a dan-



gerous place ; he said it was, for a Man was killed there some years since while driving a Sleigh load of Pearl Ash to Montreal. He jumped twenty feet over the precipice and was followed by a barrel of the Pearl Ash which killed him out right, so I consider I had a pretty narrow escape, and ought to have taken the advice of an Irish Hawker behind us who hollowed out to me to get off the Cart, and I would recommend all Travellers to keep a sharp look out on such occasions, and to judge for themselves, whether it is safest to ride or walk, as I mean to do in future whatever may be my opinion of the driver, as mine, how religious soever he may have been might have sent me to my account in the world to come.

The indifference of the Carrier in this occasion reminds me of an anecdote I learnt from a worthy friend of mine living in London. He had laid in his stock of Coals, and wishing to see if he had good measure, he was proceeding to the stairs, but they having been removed to put in the Coals he fell about ten feet into the cellar, and calling out to his Housekeeper, she came to the head of the stairs, saying "oh ! the cat fell over there to day too." So easily do many bear the accidents of others occasioned by *their* negligence.

Advancing on the road nigh the outlet, on emerging from the woods, my Carrier shewed me a large clearance which he said had formerly been inhabited, but owing to the drunken habits of one troublesome man, the settlement was broken up. I afterwards saw this man at a farm adjoining: His countenance betokened his habit, and the spots of disease appeared to be upon

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him, and will possibly reward him for his misconduct to himself and his neighbours.

Saturday, 14th Sept. Rode in a Farmers Waggon and pair of fine horses to the Outlet. Soil still the same, red gravelly, and some-what sandy, and little cultivated. The land from this to the outlet nigh two miles appeared to have been formerly settled and grown up, much timber burnt, when making the new road.

The Village of the outlet offers no promising appearance. Roads badly repaired to it, and the most miserable looking Bridge I ever saw ; not a rail on either side. There is however a neat Church belonging to all denominations.

There is also a Grist Mill, Clothing Machinery and a manufactory of Matches lately built. The plan of building Churches in concert with other denominations of Christians appears to me to be a good plan for Country places, and should I think be sanctioned and encouraged by the Church of England. It might perhaps produce an effect hereafter, not foreseen ; if by proper and prudent conduct of that Church the dissenters from it should be conciliated in their feelings.

The service of the Episcopal Church certainly cannot be surpassed in the elegance and purity of its language, religious sentiments and effusions, and I have often heard part of its expressions repeated by various denominations ; but there is evidently some jealousy of superior power or authority about the minds of these sects, which if soothed by proper means on the part of the Church of England would probably be in part done away with. The Roman Catholic

Churches are I beleive always open to receive the devotions of its Members. The Methodists have service several times in the week. If a more frequent service were performed by the Ministers of the Church of England, and especially, if another thing which I consider of great weight, to produce the above effect, were added, namely, that Eloquence in these Ministers should determine their appointment to these Country places; I should conceive many dissenters would return to the Bosom of the Church they had seceded from. The cause assigned by the Revd. Mr. Wesley if I recollect right for his having at first founded the sect of Methodists was a desire to see a more constant and uniform piety prevail. Why should the Church of England not have yielded to, and facilitated these desires in a great part of her people when it was first observed? Why should she not *now* allow them to have more frequent opportunities of devotion in her own sanctuaries? The immense variety of sects into which Protestantism has been split and divided, has perhaps tended to weaken its force and extension, or will do so if these continue to multiply and its opponents probably desire to see nothing better. A reunion therefore, if it could be effected, would in my humble opinion be of powerful service to Protestant Christianity. Whether this reunion be as yet practicable, I am uncertain, but for the present, I will here beg leave to state one idea that has for many years suggested itself to my reflection, tending as I believe it would to conciliate and harmonize all sects of Christians.

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The idea is, that one day in each year should be agreed upon by all the sects, to put up together such a form of prayer to the Almighty on that day, as their respective Ministers might agree upon : All sects of Christians, Catholic and Protestant are agreed on the great and fundamental points. They all worship Father, Son & Holy Ghost. Might not a form of prayer and thanks-giving, be therefore easily agreed upon, which should not in the least touch upon their separate and inferior articles of belief and doctrine ; and an appropriate sermon be also delivered of the same character ?

This it appears to me is very practicable, and I know of nothing that would lead more to strengthen and promote the true spirit of Christianity as designed by its author ; certainly nothing could be more rejoicing than to see all sects of Christians agreed on one occasion at least, in offering up their united adoration ; nothing perhaps would more remove unfounded prejudices, intimidate and perhaps recal the Infidel from the errors of his thoughts ; nothing perhaps would be more acceptable to the Divine Creator, than this united adoration. Should it however happen that one or more of the sects might not consent to the above proposition ; it need not prevent those sects who may consider it likely to do good, from trying it. One day is but the 365th part of the year, and it appears to me all Christians might well consent to consecrate it by this approved and united homage, as a bond of Christian peace and charity.

Saturday, 14th Sept. Took the stage to go to Ayre's tavern on the Stanstead road. The road is

not quite so hilly as hitherto. Some good farms, soil still the same ; saw some Schisti rocks which I should suppose would do for making tiling slates. It is mentioned in a late paper that an invention has been found for sawing slate into slabs for paying out houses, yards, &c. which may likely be of use in this Country. Found more Indian Corn than at Stukeley. The Lake Memphramagog, the outlet of which we have just come from, lies a few miles west of it. It is thirty miles long, twenty of which is in Lower Canada, the remaining ten on the other side the line. The 20 miles is not much cultivated round the Lake. which is said to be very deep : nigh Mr. Ayre's tavern : came to the shore of Lake Tomefobi, supposed Indian name, laid down on the plan of the Townships as Lake Missiwappi, we had a fine view of it coming over the hills above it, it was calm when I passed and appears a beautiful piece of Water, 10 miles long lays nigh N. East and S. West. The road winds round the West side of it below the rocks which have a fearful over-hanging appearance. Fish caught in the Lake weighing 1 cwt. The vale in which Ayre's Tavern is situated is beautifully level and well cultivated, Oats, Corn, Potatoes and some Wheat.

Sunday 15th Sept. Took a walk to go to the only place of Divine Service here, the Universalists ; was too late for service but had a delightful walk thro' fine meadows with hardly a stone or a stump, Oats, Corn &c. growing across the river which runs from Stanstead into the Lake Missiwappi. These Townships when cleared and settled, will certainly present as beautiful prospects as can be seen even in Old England, such interchange there is of hill and dale.

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This afternoon took a walk to the Lake Tomefobi where the road runs at the foot of the Rocks which overhang it precipitously, large trees on the edge of the precipice with hardly earth enough to hold them and as the rock decomposes, masses will fall in the road; some of these rocks I observed have been forced up almost to the perpendicular by Igneous and Volcanic action. The layers dip N. E. generally. The rock is chiefly blue slate and apparently well formed for making slate tiles, the slate differs from that round Granby in not having any appearance of mica. The soil of most Countries is formed by the decomposition of the rock below it which shews how useful some knowledge of Geology and Agricultural Chemistry would be to farmers. The soil adjoining the decaying slate rock, I observed this day has a sandy feel, shewing that the rock has a large proportion of silex in its composition.

I am informed this day by a Farmer that one and a half ton of hay is generally cut on an acre of low meadow land, up lands some times more, Wheat, generally 12 to 15 bushels per acre, but Ayres' father says he has reaped 32 bushels from one acre of good rich land. I was also informed that farmers in this and neighbouring Townships at an average raise 25 head Cattle per year: good size oxen now sell here at \$80 per pair for cash; the Americans have bought up at least 5000 head of Cattle in the Townships and Seigneuries this year paying cash for the same. And nigh 2000 head have been driven by Mr. Longley, Cattle dealer, from hence to Montreal.

Thus a ready and good market is offered to the

farmers here at their own doors, for a staple article of the produce of the Townships: no Country could desire more, and it clearly proves that the complaints of some who are to, or have quit them, must have some other cause than either soil or markets.

I have found the people on my journey hitherto well disposed to the British Government generally, and rather anxious to know if the Canadian war was to go on again; some however, appear jealous of those called by one at least "Yankee Tories," but the body of the People is reasonably disposed for moderate measures towards the French Canadians, and appear desirous that Peace should prevail, and public improvements go on. Found several french Canadians working on wages at from 10 to 12 dollars per month in the Townships I have passed. The greatest part of the farms I have visited are possessed by Americans or their decendants. Their families are good looking in general; but do not appear very numerous, tho' I have been told there are families of 12 or 14 children. The children I have seen are generally handsome and pretty shrewd in their dialect and manners.

In regard to a desire for the improvements advocated in the *Considerations on the Canadas*, the public mind here is not much awakened, the distance of time between the late disturbances and the present time is too short, they do not yet appear to be in that state of security which the mind requires before it looks out for advancement. They in fact are yet in doubt whether it will be peace or war, but I trust the feeling of security will increase, and I am happy to

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find that this expectation written on my journey is now verified and trust there will not now arise for many years any such obstruction to the advancement of the Canadas in their Agriculture, Commerce and Public Improvements as has lately occurred.

Monday Sept. 16th. Walked up the hills, west of Ayres' tavern to a settlement called Brown's Hill, found some black soil formed by the decomposition and disintegration of the black slaty rock. The feel of the soil is sandy, proving the Rock contains more silex than allumine in its composition. Saw one field above the hill all of this black soil. The owner's son ploughing in it, said he had taken fifty bushels of Oats from an acre. Next year intended to dung it and plant Corn. I offered him one of Evans's Magazines upon Agriculture, he said he did not care to read it. I told him as a young Farmer he should endeavour to gain all the information he could as he might then be able to produce more on one acre of ground than his neighbours, at which he smiled. It would appear there is yet no stimulus for emulation existing here, nor will there probably, until some method is found of introducing a zeal for the practice of Agricultural Improvement among the rising generation. His mother had sold a pair of Steers for 40 dollars cash.

Ascending the hill towards Ayres' Farm. I enjoyed the finest prospect I had yet seen in the Townships, an Horizon of Hilly Country with the most beautiful slopes, about 25 miles in circumference; and comprising a semi diameter from where I stood of about 8 miles. This view comprized 4 Townships, Hatley, Stanstead, Compton and Barnston. The view is

interspersed with many cleared and cultivated Farms. The Village Church of Hatley is also visible. In some 30 or 40 years this prospect will not be surpassed by the prospect from St. Foy's Church.

Ascended to Brown's Hill, the land rising all the way and shews the Lake Tomefobi.

In short it appears to me these Eastern Townships will very soon deserve the name of the Garden of Lower Canada. It is true the seasons have lately been unfavorable for Wheat, but that has been the case this year all thro' Upper Canada and almost the whole of the United States for I believe the two last years before this. Indeed the Farmers of Lower Canada may well put up with the loss of a Crop of Wheat now and then, when they remember that almost all over Ireland and a great part of Scotland and the North of England the grain consumed by the Farmers is I believe mostly Oats, Rye and Barley. Coming down from Brown's crossed a field of Wheat laying on the ground, the ears not more than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, and hardly any thing in them. Was informed it got rusted very early. It appears to me the soil here is hardly strong enough for Wheat. Oats, Barley, Potatoes, Corn, Buckwheat, Gras and Hay probably suit it better, but the Farmers provided they can find a clay bank nigh enough, can always strengthen a field for growing Wheat, by carting clay on it and on which subject I refer them to page 17, and feel convinced that their lands can be by this means made to produce as rich Crops of Wheat as any soil in the Canadas.

Walking home, called at a Farm and offered the

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*Considerations* ; conversing on the subject with the owner of the Farm whom I found sound and constitutional. He asked me if I thought there would be more disturbance next Winter ? I said I could not think there would be ; that most of the Canadians I had conversed with, said they had been misled and ill treated by their leaders and would not be so again, but I heard at Rougemont some of them had said, if the Americans came to help them they would rise. He said he did not believe the Americans would come ; on my observing I believed the Americans had been misled by the refugees and made to think we were all slaves here ; his wife an American woman, said we were as free as they were.

Crossed a field that had not been ploughed for 30 years having been all that time in Grass and Hay. The soil was red and sandy, and a little stoney but deep, light and powdery. They intended to sow Wheat next without any manure.

Tuesday 17th Sept. Walked to the Lake on the new road, sat down by a spring of very cold water issuing from the solid rock, taste rather brackish. The air without a zephyr, the Lake a looking glass, Fish sporting.

Observed some of the Strata upraised entirely to the perpendicular by some volcanic force from below ; one piece of the rock was projected beyond the perpendicular ; at the top of these vertical strata there is a singular appearance : About five feet square of the rock lays quite horizontal which the volcanic force has not reached, all stratified rocks having been originally deposited horizontally.

At three o'clock rode in the Stage from Ayre's Tavern to Stanstead plain. The soil for 2 or 3 miles much as before, sandy gravelly loam; further on passed thro' a few miles of wood lands, rather swampy. Coachman said it was a cold wet soil, but little large timber in it, but it seems to me if clay lays below the black soil, (as is frequently the case) and could be ploughed in with the surface, this little tract would receive great improvement and probably be well calculated for Wheat; and this observation will apply to all similar tracts. Riding on a few miles, came to a fine settled Country, good sized houses much cleared land, chiefly Grass, few stumps or stones, plenty of Corn, Oats and Potatoes and some Wheat pretty long in the ear.

Within a few miles of Stanstead saw the Mountain or rather hills of Boulton and Cotton on the right, the highest is near as high as the Orford Mountain and is called the Owl's head; further on saw part of the Green Mountains running thro' Vermont. The soil near Stanstead seems to improve in strength and deepness. There is a neat Church this side the Village.

Stanstead has a very neat and smart appearance some genteel houses and two good Taverns; put up at one, at the moderate charge of two dollars per week and abundantly found too with the good things of the land, pies, puddings and tarts in the bargain. There are three or four tolerable stores and some Mechanic's Shops. Walked to Young's Farms, Father and Son. The old man is as jolly a looking Farmer as old England could show, reasonable, kind and apparently contented; has been here nigh forty years, owns about

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40 head Cattle. I saw one pair, for which he had been offered thirty five pounds and refused it ; dined with him from a plentiful table. The land here about still good. Col. Kilborne has a fine Farm, but he having met with a serious accident, I had not the honor of conversing with him. Walked to what is called the Island ; so formed by being surrounded with a fine run and fall of water, just on the lines. The little Village on it consists of various manufactories, Grist Mill, Saw Mill, Clothing and Carding ; Chair making and a Paper Mill, which I believe sends out a good deal of Paper thro' the Province. Several stores and some tolerable dwelling houses make up the Village. Went into a taylor's shop, saw several women making clothes for Americans over the lines who thereby save the duty on our cloths. Passed to the American Village opposite, was treated politely. Offered for sale copies of the *Considerations on the Canadas* at Mr. Baxters a fine looking young man who immediately bought a sett, conversing with another of the Store keepers on Canadian affairs he said he by no means approved either of interfering in them himself or of those that did, he believed the Canadas from the nature of their population being so discordant were not *calculated* to govern themselves and agreed with an observation I made that it was very probable if Lower Canada was given up by the British Government, it would not be able to maintain its independence long against some of the Foreign powers of Europe ; and as I have before observed, France would very likely be able to form a party in the Province, and obtain possession of it and possibly of Upper Canada also.

Then adieu to liberty ; these Colonies would not have more than France itself now has, and that is now much diminished.

Sept. 21st Saturday. Walked to the Church two miles north of the Village of Stanstead, in the way found an intelligent man ploughing ; the field had been in pasture thirty years, fine powdery soil, red and grey mixt, owing to the decomposition of black slate and granite stones. Mr. M. said the black soil in this neighbourhood was formed by the decomposition of black Slate. Conversed on Canadian politics explaining him the object of the *Considerations of the Canadas*, viz. of introducing the modern system of agriculture, among the French Canadians ; he said he believed agriculture would never be improved in this Province, till the land Tenure was changed, that he could bring a great many American Agriculturists of some capital into it, but for that, and the dread of more disturbances ; said he could in that case sell his Farm for double what he gave for it. But a question would then arise would those Americans prove good loyal subjects ? If they met with good treatment it is probable they would become so.

The Church is a neat building inside and out, but no service is performed in it. It is owned by different congregations who it appears do not agree as to the time of the separate services.

To my surprize found the Church door open, and it is so night and day.—Called in a house where a poor lad is laying with his leg amputated for a white swelling nine years since. And he has had another bone taken out lately, and had been in his bed for the last six months. One cannot travel long without finding

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what the Canadians call "misere." Turned up the road leading to Capt. Roses' Farm, he told me he had been on the farm forty years, it consists of 900 acres about 300 cleared, he winters nigh 50 head cattle ; says he never saw a worse year for Wheat than the present ; has frequently raised twenty five bushels on an acre, finds that he can produce as much as an acre now (in good seasons) as he could forty years ago ; a pretty clear proof the Captain is a good Farmer. In fact it is almost laughable to hear some talk here of the lands falling off in a few years ; when we know that in the old Country the lands have been hard worked for hundreds of years, and yet by proper agriculture yield perhaps as much as ever. Twenty five bushels of Wheat per acre is said to be the average produce of all England. High rents and taxes therefore, how much soever they are to be deplored ; have yet the effect of exciting the Cultivators of the soil to discover and to practise the most productive systems of agriculture ; enabling the Farmers to pay these high charges and yet I believe in general to enjoy abundance. And altho' our Cultivators here are happily exempt from those large demands, yet it is to be wished that a zeal for agriculture (one of the healthiest and most independent pursuits of life,) will ere long lead them to adopt those discoveries in that science and the improvements in it which have hitherto enabled English and Scotch Agriculturists to bear up against the so much heavier charges attendant on Agricultural pursuits in the old Country.

The Farmers in these Townships are in general shrewd and intelligent, and will easily see how far



these improvments can be adapted to their soil and climate ; and thus enable them to increase the value of their lands and properties.

Before coming to Capt. Roses' farm, I passed a wood nearly all hard timber, Birch, Maple, Beech &c. soil much as usual, sandy and rather stony loam. There are in the walk round to the road coming out at Chamberlains, a surprising number of fine fields on the hills, almost without a stump or stone, past Chamberlain's Mill (say Grist and Saw Mill,) and a Clothing Establishment for dressing.

Sept. 23d Monday. Saw the first Catholic Chapel, frame raised that has yet been in this County. It is said to be put up chiefly by Irish Catholics.

The Country round the plain is well studded with fine farms, and I believe this County is allowed to be one of the finest in the Townships.

24th Tuesday. Walked round by the field and farms east of the plains. Counted on a farm adjoining the road being the last but one in Canada 70 or 80 Sheep, all belonging to the farm.

Passed by a few American farms on east side the road, and came to the Island before described.

The people in the Village of Stanstead or the plains appear to be all in a comfortable condition, no appearance of distressing poverty or as a french Canadian woman who with her husband came here from Three Rivers, said to me "there is not so much "misere" here. Many french Canadians have come here to find work, they get from 10 to 12 dollars per month and well found. One old man yesterday sent 70 dollars of his earnings to his brother in the Seigneuries ; some of

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these labourers actually keep a horse and chaise to ride to service on the "Dimanche" Sunday.

This morning saw in the Village two caleshes with Indians in them, they were going to Durham Township 40 miles off, where they lived. The two horses owned by the same Indian; he said he had land in the Townships. I observed to him that "Indian" was well off, to which he nodded assent. It is interesting to observe the gradual steps by which human nature advances thro' the savage state to that of civilization.

How many ages have the forefathers of this poor Indian existed in a state of society little elevated above his co-tenants of the forest the Wolf and the Bear? Now, following the example of the white man, the descendant of these Savages has compelled the noblest of the animals to do him service.

This day there was a Centenary Meeting of the Methodists attended by five Preachers seated on a platform before the Pulpit in the Chapel. One of them in his address stated, that the Methodists by the last accounts from England had gained an accession of 3000, to their numbers, since the Centenary Meeting was determined on, (as I understood him.)

Wednesday 25th Sept. At four o'clock this morning rode in the Stage from Stanstead plain to Hatley 14 miles for 3s. 6d. the road up hill and down dale as usual; but too dark and foggy to see much; at sun rise found some good farms and orchards, soil much the same as before, saw lake Missiwiippi or Tomefobi some miles before arriving at Hatley. The forests mostly are hard wood: put up at Child's tavern at two dollars per week. The Village has a very pretty appearance.

There is an Episcopal Church and an Academy nigh it, a Methodist Chapel building, and two or three small stores. Walked on the Stanstead road, and was informed of an establishment on the west road.

Thursday, 26th. Walked towards lake Tomefobi passed a Potashery, and a low tract of land nigh the Village, with two or three french Canadian settlers, they said the land was good and yielded well "terre noir" one of them paid 30 dollars a year for 150 acres land and expected to be able to buy it next spring. I found this man on my return, playing a violin very musically ; had made it himself. His mother told me she had a terre (farm) at Three rivers which they had quit because it yielded nothing, said her son got 5s. per day in harvest time on the lake shore. Unless some better system of agriculture be introduced among the french Canadians in the Seigneuries, I have no doubt many of them will ere long find themselves in the same situation as this poor woman. They have gone on for more than 200 years wearing out the soil by continual Wheat Cropping, without sufficient manure, until it appears to be quite heart broken, and I have some idea, this want of a sound and healthy mode of agriculture has occasioned the generation of that pest of the Country the Wheat fly. We know that in the human body a long continuation of poor and low living will generate disease, and it may be the case with poor husbandry.

On the lake shore nigh Hitchcocks found a retired little Village, 2 Grist Mills, Saw Mills and several houses and a very good sized tavern.

Friday, 27th. Walked on the north road towards

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Deacon Littles, soil as usual, some good clearances and farms. Went into a house where a woman told me she had reared eleven children, all girls. On my offering the book for sale she said she did not know much of politics, but thought the Country would do better if there were not so many different kind of people in it, among the rest she mentioned the English ; I told her the Country belonged to the English, at which she smiled and said " true." She was an American and I mention this to shew how nationality adheres to us all, gentle and simple. Dined at a jolly looking Yankee born farmers but had been in the Province nigh forty years. He said the Country wanted Manufactures like the States, that there was not enough freedom of speech here, that a person stating opinions against the Government was likely to be informed against and cast into prison without evidence ; that this had been done with respect to Lee who was confined some months, and had just been acquitted for want of evidence. But it should be remembered this was done during the rebellion, which does not admit of the same nicety as in quiet times.

Mine host told me he had wintered 70 head of Cattle, that some farmers in the Townships raised from three to four hundred bushels of Wheat ; thought the average of Cattle raised by all the farmers was twenty five head ; the average of Wheat perhaps 50 bushels. He said it was no use to raise more Wheat than the Township could consume, for they could not send it to the St. Lawrence, being too far off : a sound observation.

It is indeed to be lamented that the agriculture of

these Townships should be impeded by a cause of this kind, and it is to be hoped that before many years a communication by rail road or canal down the St. Francis, may be effected for that end.

Went into another house, the owner, or a neighbour of his apparently opposed to Government, as he said he thought they would not do any thing for the Townships: he was opposed to the union of the Canadas because he thought there would be less liberality then than ever; and that they would do nothing but seek their own interests. I told him their true interests consisted in the prosperity of the Province, to which he assented. Called in at a house where I saw a very old man; told him of the plan of improving the french Canadian agriculture; he said he did not think there was any necessity for that; the Canadians would adopt a better system in time themselves. I observed they would not change unless it could be proved to them it was their interest so to do; that they had continued to wear out the lands till at length they yielded almost nothing; that the design of the plan was to hire a certain number of their farms, to say one in every fifth Parish, the farm to be changed in a certain number of years; which would give them an interest in the success of the plan and effectively introduce a knowledge of its superior yield all over the Seigniories which knowledge was now only acquired, and that very partially, in the neighbourhood of the Towns. This old man is an evidence that old age is not the season for making improvements; rest and tranquillity is all it seeks. In my walk along the lake found much the same soil, excepting the Valley in the hollow above mentioned occupied by Mr. Hall of Hatley.

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Tuesday, Oct. 1st. Arrived at Compton yesterday morning paid 1s. 3d. Stage fair.

Compton is a pretty little Village nearly same size as Hatley, but no water privilege; there is an Episcopal Church, two or three stores, a Potashery and two smiths shops and two taverns; put up at 12s. 6d. per week: found the soil rather less sandy. Walked to Major Jones' farm who is settled in the Valley below the Village on 600 acres fine land; passing over one of his fields, found it far less sandy than any land I have seen since I left Montreal. He had cut down the wheat which he says looked very well till the rust came. It is almost destroyed by it and the fly or worm. Conversing with him respecting his wheat, I found him a very intelligent gentleman. He said it had been destroyed by what is called the fly, but that it was not a fly but a worm; says a man in the United States had proved it to be a worm of nigh a quarter of an inch long which comes out of the ground, gets up between the blades of the Wheat and deposits its young who eat the wheat and then return to the earth till the next year. Asked him if he did not think burning the soil before sowing would destroy them; he said he had some-times thought of that and it might answer. He told me the soil round his farm was alluvial, that he had observed the marks in the hills where the tide or waters of the lake formerly rose to; said his neighbour Captain Snow had a tract of valley next his farm which surpassed any land he had seen in any part of the world. On the subject of raising cattle, he said he believed more profit could be made by selling Hay at almost any price than by feeding it to cattle. The

forests round him are mostly hard wood; said there was a great deal of elm which was always a sign of the best land. Had raised in some seasons three or four hundred bushels of wheat; he paid a great compliment to the climate in his neighbourhood, for that in his travels over a great part of the world, he had never met with a more healthy Country. He mentioned also that a neighbour of his had raised near sixty bushels of wheat in a year on an acre of ground. I have heard of one farmer only in Upper Canada having produced the same yield; but it was got by uncommon pains, sowing every inch of the ground up to the stumps by the hoe.

Octr. 9th Friday. Having met with the son of an old friend who commanded a sloop of war in Halifax in 1811, and being invited to go and see him at Compton, I called and found him possessed of a fine Family of Eleven Children two fine young men, his sons well grown up. He is a Lieut. in the Navy, owns a farm of 120 acres in Compton Township with 60 acres cleared, and he takes the most effective mode of making farming answer in this Country for he works it himself with his sons. I much hope and believe he will prosper.

This morning he conveyed me to Lennoxville thro' a very good road equal to any in England.

The land thro' Compton and Ascot is not nigh so rocky as what I have gone through. On the road we passed two Saw and Grist Mills. The Village of Lennoxville has an Episcopal Church and is situated nigh the Missiwappi River. It has a Brewery, two taverns and several stores, Capt. Crispo's farm is

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for sale at Compton. It has a house and barn, and the soil appears a good sandy loam. The house stands on a fine eminence nigh the road. We passed a farm formerly owned by a man who has exhibited an uncommon instance of parental affection for his daughter who died in the States, having brought her remains thence and buried them in his own ground.

The people in the Townships I have passed thro' are a majority of them Americans or their decendants, but I have found them generally well disposed to the British Government, with some exceptions. It is true, that several Gentlemen from England have quit the Townships perhaps from this cause and the dissimilarity of English and American manners; but it appears to me that people should endeavour to assimilate to the Country they come to reside in; by which they would in a short period of time render themselves much more comfortable. It is probable in fact, that the peculiar state of manners in every community is produced gradually by the peculiar circumstances of every description in which the community finds itself, and has produced the same effect in this. I was therefore happy to observe much of this conciliating conduct in my friends' son above mentioned and accordingly I found him well liked and well spoken of by his neighbours.

Tho' the chief part of the population here are of American descent, it is to be considered they were mostly American loyalists who quitted their Country on account of their political attachment to Great Britain; I cannot therefore subscribe to the sweeping opinion, the Montreal Herald has expressed of these

Townships, namely that they could not be depended on, in case of an invasion from the Americans. It is but fair to judge of men by their past conduct, now during the last American war and the late rebellions, the Townships I believe generally shewed themselves ready to defend the Province from attacks external and internal, and I have not a doubt that if fairly and liberally treated by the British Government they will continue to increase in that attachment which every people owes to their political duties.

This morning walked to see the River St. Francis for the first time, at its junction with the Missiwappi outlet stream. The St. Francis is a tolerably wide stream below the junction, and runs rapidly. Boats loaded with pearl ash have been sent down from Stanstead even, at certain seasons to the St. Lawrence, being drawn over the portages; but when the roads are good the french Canadians take goods up and down in their carts at a cheaper rate. Saw this morning some carts loaded with salt from Three Rivers. The driver selling it on his own account. It is much to be hoped there will be a navigation or conveyance effected along the St. Francis by which the produce of a large tract of settled Country might then be brought down to the St. Lawrence thro' the lake Missiwappi and the two Magogs; and possibly might occasion a considerable trade to and from the parts of the United States on the lines; and this improvment, after peace and quietness is restored will probably be attempted by the Legislature and the Land Company and more especially by the energy of the Inhabitants of the Townships themselves.

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This day walked to Col. Morris' farm, the soil round about the village seems to contain more of the hard mica slate rock than usual and no doubt it affects the soil by its disintegration. Heard of a farm selling this day at ten dollars per acre for 100 acres £2500 cy. nigh Sherbrooke. Learnt at Lennoxville that the average of the cattle wintered in each farm in the Townships could not be more than twenty five head each. so that opinions vary here as elsewhere on this head.

Octr. 9th. Quit Lennoxville for Sherbrooke found the road nigh the village more rocky than usual.

On the road to it we passed a lady's farm who I am informed gathered at the rate of 480 bushels Potatoes from an acre of ground. It appears also her wheat escaped the rust and fly not withstanding most of the farmers in the Townships I have visited, have suffered so severely from them. On my enquiring into the cause of this, was told by her farmer she had directed him, that when the wheat came to flower he should strew the ears with lime dust, she having been informed by an intelligent American Farmer, that it would protect it from the rust, and it seems it has saved it from both fly and rust. I afterwards learnt this lady reaped at the rate of twenty bushels per acre of this wheat. I had often heard that lime dust would protect from rust and if it will also from the fly or worm, it is a valuable discovery. By all the accounts of damage sustained from rust this year thro' the Townships, I should say there will be an average loss this year of nigh one third the crops; and certainly this third would well pay all the expence attending the lime dusting of any number of acres of wheat.

The Town of Sherbrooke is not well seen until you ride thro' some part of it, on turning up the hill to cross the outlet bridge, passed some good stores and taverns and the Barracks or Guard room of the Volunteers. The bridge is a fine large one, and high, and the waters of the outlet rush impetuously down the rocks through it, into the St. Francis.

There is an Episcopal Church, a Dissenting Chapel and Catholic Church; and the Company have here their establishment; large Grist Mill, Saw Mill and Clothing establishment which last is not now at work. There is also another Saw Mill a smithery and plough making Forge, in the Village of the Magog outlet. This outlet it is said could be made navigable by locks which would produce a conveyance from the lakes to the St. Francis comprising a great tract of fine Country which will no doubt become populous enough by and by to bear the expence.

The operations of the Company appear at present to proceed but rather languidly; to which we are no doubt obliged by the sagacious promoters of the late foolish disturbances, which have occasioned the loss of nigh 18,000 emigrants to the two Provinces. But thank God we have weathered those gales and have to look out now for more prosperous ones. It appears that by the latest accounts from England and Scotland there are great intentions and preparation for sending out settlers. The Highlands of Scotland especially, will furnish a hardy and valuable body and as Government intends to assist their emigration; it appears to me they could not do more wisely than to locate them in some of the Eastern of Townships

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between Sherbrooke and the lines. They are a loyal industrious set of people and would make good borderers to resist the encroachments of our sometime troublesome neighbours. The introduction also of a loyal home population of this kind is the true way to offer a counterpoise to the increase of the French population in this Province.

The Town of Sherbrooke is the largest I have seen in the Townships. Several good stores and genteel houses.

I learnt to day from a person who has been in the habit of taking down pearl ashes to the St. Lawrence by the St. Francis, that there are four portages to be passed going down all of which do not make more than 8 miles of portages. If so, I should suppose a canal navigation for small vessels in conjunction with the river could not be very expensive.

Friday, Octr. 10th. This day called on his honor the Judge a venerable looking old gentleman of about 70 years of age, very intelligent as may be supposed, and energetic. Conversing with him on the subject of my *Considerations on the Canadas*, I found he did not approve of the Union of the two Provinces, he said he believed it would give the Canadians a great majority in the House of Assembly and might prove to be the separation of the Provinces from the parent State. I observed to him that part of the work relating to the Union was grounded, not on the idea of giving to the french Canadians the same political majority they formerly had, but on a new revision of the Seigneuries, on an increase of the representation of the British parts of the Provinces which

joined to the representation of the Upper Province should effect the return of a Constitutional House of Assembly. That this was a *sinequa non* of the plan of Union; that the french Canadians could not reasonably expect, after two suppressed rebellions to be entrusted with the same degree of political power they had before; and could only expect to be allowed as many representatives as would be necessary to give the required local information, and to advocate the proper sums to be voted for their roads and bridges, and education of their children, and other public services. The Judge did me the honor to purchase a set of the work.

Walking nigh the Town I was informed by a man that he would get 200 bushels Potatoes from half an acre of ground in which bricks had been burnt formerly, and to which this much greater yield than is customary this season, was owing, which is probable; burnt clay being known as a good manure, most likely acting mechanically by retaining the rain.

Another farmer said he had raised 500 bushels on an acre. On asking him whether the stronger land in the Valleys would not answer for wheat, and telling him I had known sandy lands in the Seigneuries greatly improved by manuring with clay; he said shrewdly, by that means they made their land equal to the Township lands, a sandy loam; and he added that clay lands were too cold for wheat in this Country. This is I think likely enough; still the variety of proportion of clay that may be mixed in soils is very great; and I think it probable that the addition of more clay to much of the Township soils would enable them to produce a richer yield of wheat; what that

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increased proportion of clay should be, must be learnt by experiments, but each farm would be enabled by thus claying a few acres, to have a good crop of wheat, for its own supply at least.

The people of Sherbrooke appear to me to be a kind sort of people, sociably living together. Mr. Page's Inn at which I put up is an uncommon good and comfortable one, and for a small Town may be called an elegant establishment. Indeed at all the Inns thro' the Townships I have yet visited, I have generally found kindness and attention. The Town of Sherbrooke is possibly destined in no great number of years to become large and populous: when we consider the extent of the County, its numerous Townships and its communication by waters which in course of time, will probably be made navigable at least for small craft, and will then afford a conveyance for the surplus produce by two lakes, of a Country continually increasing in population, all the way from Stanstead and probably a good distance into the adjoining States, we may I think, venture to predict as above.

Whilst residing in Sherbrooke saw nigh 200 head of cattle drove in from the Seigniories by a Canadian drover for sale; a good yoke is said to be worth 80 to 100 dollars. The drover told me that 80 dollars was the prevailing cost in the Seigniories. It is remarkable that altho' the farmers of the Townships find at present so ready a market for their cattle, yet some persons, especially among the lower classes complain of this, saying it makes meat dear. They do not consider that the farmer getting a ready sale at his own door and a good price, is thereby enabled to hire more peo-



ple to cultivate more land, and to increase his stock of provender for more cattle, and also to afford the better to pay the price of labour to the poor man.

Thursday 17th Octr. Quit Sherbrooke for Melbourne and arrived there this night, putting up at Elliott's at 12s. 6d. per week, an Inn about a mile this side the village.

Two or three miles from Sherbrooke stopt at an Inn; the landlord was ploughing a hill on his farm which appeared very sandy. I observed to him it was very light soil for wheat, but supposed it would give good Oats; he said he had raised nigh 20 bushels of Wheat to an acre in it, and was to sow wheat next spring; In a very productive season this might be the case. when the land is well supplied with rains, any soil will produce, if these showers be continued during the season of growth; but the advantage arising from stronglands is, that they retain the rains in case of drought.

The Country from Sherbrooke to a few miles this side Melbourne appears more sandy than I have met with from Montreal and the timber accordingly is mostly soft wood, spruce, fir, &c.

Friday 18th Octr. Walked to Capt. Aylmer's farm, a relation of the late Governor General of the Canadas. The Capt. told me he had 500 acres land here and appears to be (like my friend Capt. Crispo's son of Compton) taking the true way to succeed in farming in this Country, attending to the working and management of his farm himself; he observed he did not approve of looking for those comforts or luxuries which people may have been accustomed to in England until

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they could afford, the means of obtaining them without obstructing their progress in farming; a cause which he said had produced the ill success of many coming out to farm from that Country; and that they often bought old farms which had been nigh exhausted by over tillage, and then required many years to restore them. I mentioned the using of lime in composts for that purpose, and was told by him there was abundance of limestone in the neighbourhood. He owns a Mill in or near the Village. Shewed me a book published by Lord Brougham and others on agriculture, and I will here repeat an observation I made on the subject of Mr. Dampier's farm, namely the advantage arising to a Township from having men of this description settling in it. Here, this Gentlemen introduces a book on the most approved systems of agriculture in the old Countries, containing perhaps many valuable discoveries and practices; which otherwise might never be heard of in the woods of Canada; but which may ultimately prove of great service in their cultivation. Nothing is more likely to diffuse that zeal and emulation in agriculture, thro' a Country and nothing more likely than such zeal to render the agriculture of a Country prosperous and profitable. It appears to me therefore these kind of agricultural settlers deserve and are entitled to the respect and consideration of the population of the Townships.

On rising up the hill leading to the Captain's farm found the soil much improved as compared to the road to Sherbrooke. Called in this morning and saw a turning machine going by water. Next to a blacksmiths shop nigh Elliotts observed a bank nigh fifteen

feet high dug into, which consists of strata of Pebbles of all sizes rounded by rolling in water, being evidence of alluvial formation by ancient inundation of the land, or at least that the St. Francis has formerly flowed over the spot for a long period of time.

Mr. Elliott informs me lime could be burnt here at 3d. per bushel prime cost to the owner.

Saturday 19th Octr. Walked to Page's Saw Mill  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile south of the village. The Mill is worked by a dam from a river; on the road there, found a rock of fine blue lime stone and a man burning lime from the rock which he blasts with gun powder. The lime is brown and sells at  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. per bushel slacked. Sherbrooke and this place are supplied with white lime from Dunville at 10d. per bushel at the kiln there. Just below where the man was burning the lime, I walked thro' a field of very fine clay soil without any feeling of sandy grit at all, probably well suited for fine bricks or pottery work.

Octr. 20th. took a walk back of the Scotch Meeting House on the hill west of the village, found the soil good loam, fields well cleared of stumps and stones. Back of Capt. Rose's farm, called at a farm house, the owner a young Irishman from north of Ireland, had been settled there eighteen years, said he had sown three bushels wheat and expected to get thirty or forty bushels from it. It was not much rusted.

Octr. 21st. Walked toward the Village of Melbourne; nigh it there is a slaty lime stone rock from which they were burning lime. Instead of building a regular lime Kiln, they dig an oblong cavity in the bank, build up walls on each side with the lime

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stone without mortar, leaving two or three flues all the length of the cavity for the fuel (wood) cover over the flues with stone and fill up to some feet above the top of the cavity made in the bank ; then walls and all are burnt into lime, (brown.) This lime stone rock is very abundant round the Village. The Methodists are building a fine brick Chapel in this village of Melbourne. The bricks of which it is built have been partly made from a clay bank in front of the Chapel. They have thus lime and bricks in plenty, and there is a bank of sand only ten feet from the clay bank. Timber of all kinds is also cheap ; thus they have all the materials for building and indeed in most of the Townships I have past, this would appear to be the case from the convenience and size of their houses and taverns. The village of Melbourne is partly built on a fine slope of land along the St. Francis. It has five places of public worship, three good large taverns where boarding may be got at 10s. to 12s. 6d. per week and very good fare. There are several handsome dwelling houses all white which adds much to the neatness of the village, and there is one store, Mr. Tait's apparently completely furnished, and two or three others partly so.

This day 23d. Octr. Passed over the ferry to see Richmond village Township of Shipton.

The little village of Richmond has some fine large houses and one good roomy Tavern and a Store. The soil has much the same appearance as the other side. Was told in Melbourne by some one that the lime stone rock here is not so good for lime as there ; but this is denied in Richmond. "Esprit de corps."

Had a conversation with a gentlemen settled on a farm here, a Lieut. in the Navy who has built an elegant brick cottage. He asked my opinion as to fallowing land in order to renovate the soil; said he intended to plough in grass sward for that purpose and hoped that would destroy the moss that has collected in the field by being too long unploughed. Recommended him to dress it with some lime or rather to form a compost of swamp black earth, dung and lime alternately, and any kind of rubbish, stumps &c., he could collect. He said he believed he could get lime very cheap at the kilns at Dunville.

It appears they have no particular system of farming in the Townships, that is, as to regular rotating crops I am informed they take only one crop of wheat from the ground and seed it down next season for hay or grass leaving it so some years; and clear fresh land for wheat. To restore worn out lands they summer fallow, losing by that means an annual return of crop which I conceive they might avoid by sowing a green crop. But undoubtedly, the best way of restoring such worn out lands would be by a rich and plentiful dressing of good lime compost, made of black vegetable soil as above mentioned.

The only way I should consider, by which a fallow or resting of the land can produce the effect of benefiting the soil, is, thereby giving time to the vegetable matter the soil yet contains to decompose and produce the gasses which are now known to act as the food of vegetables. But the vegetable matter remaining in over worn soils can be but small, whereas by the dressing above mentioned, an abundant supply is

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given to the lands. The black swamp soil contains much vegetable matter, whose organization is not yet thoroughly destroyed ; and the lime immediately acts on it, and produces this effect, disengaging the carbonic acid gas and probably a portion of azotic gass which both form the most nutritive food of vegetables. But we must not expect perhaps in the Canadas, to see the most productive system of husbandry in general use, until the farmer shall have cleared off his farm all the wood land he intends to clear, having then no new lands to resort to, he will have to look out for modes of keeping his old lands in good heart. But it is true that the general practice of grazing and alternately ploughing up the grass land in these Townships, will render this necessity of restoring worn land, by compost dressing less urgent here than it is in the Seigneuries, as lands long in grass are generally sufficiently productive, if they have been occasionally well dressed with manure in a proper manner ; that is by exposing the dressing as short a time as possible to have its nutritious gasses exhaled by the sun and wind.

Oct. 25th. Passed over the ferry from Melbourne to Richmond village to go to Danville, ten miles east of it. On the entrance of the road to it there is a potashery and had been a grist mill burnt down by carelessness ; it went by water. The soil on the road much as usual ; found there was plenty lime stone rock and had been a lime kiln there. The man told me it made as good lime as any in Melbourne.

Passed the rest of the road to Danville in the dark, thus had no opportunity of observing the Country.

It is, as the driver told me interspersed with small farms of 100 to 200 acres, with some wild land, some parts of the road uncommonly rocky. But they talk of removing it a mile or two from Danville. This side the Village and very nigh the clothing machine, there is a mineral spring said to be sulphurous or gazeous, but it appears not to be famous for any great cures effected, and is probably too weakly charged with gas or salts.

The village of Danville is situated in a pleasant fertile valley, soil loamy, was informed by a labourer of Capt. Mackenzies a great farmer here, there had been 30 or 35 bushels wheat taken per acre from it. There is a grist mill and four or five saw mills in the vicinity and a carding and fulling mill &c., several Mechanics shops, a few stores and a Congregational Meeting House. The inhabitants appear peaceable and sociable, but I observed a notice of seizure on the Church door, so that things do not always go right here more than any where else.

It is to be observed this Township of Shipton is the one that Mr. Cushing had his grant of land in from Government of which in his book he says all the settlers were quitting it in account of not getting their grants, and it is that same book that contains the prophecy of the sagacious Yankee who it seems had agreed to buy from this Cushing 18,000 acres of his land in Shipton; but backed out of his bargain for the reasons stated in the book, namely his prophecy, that the Eastern Townships and Shipton along with them would never thrive. How erroneous this prophecy was, the present state of the Townships well shows.

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Returning home to Melbourne was informed by my driver, that a Captain Perkins who has been forty years settled nigh Danville in Carlton, says, when he first came, there was not a tree cut down between Richmond and Danville ; forty years more will probably present a five fold advancement of the present settlement.

Octr. 28th. This morning quit Melbourne for Durham rode 8 miles to Reids boarding house, the first four or five miles of the road is thro' a sandy soil but it is remarkable there is not withstanding a proportion of hard wood so that it is probable the soil back of the road improves, and am informed by Mr. Reid this is the case, as he says the timber back is mostly beech birch, maple and butter nut. Coming down a few miles from Melbourne observed some rocks, on opposite side the St. Francis amazingly contorted, by volcanic action, thro' the strata was nearly horizontal. In fact there are many proofs all thro' the Townships of such action ; for tho' many of the elevated lands have been formed by deposition from waters as is seen by their deep banks of sand, clay and gravel still the lime stone rock, slate, and other rocks are uplifted in angles of every degree up to the vertical position and as all stratified rocks must have been deposited horizontally, the subsequent upliftings must have been caused by forces from below.

The road to Reids in Durham is interspersed with some good farms well cleared ; I was informed by a principal farmer here that many of the settlers are french Canadians and Indians and many disbanded soldiers, and he did not think the farmers of the Town-

ships will average more than fifteen head cattle each Reid informed me that some settlers who came here a few years ago without a shilling were doing well, one in particular who had neither ox nor horse to work with, is worth now 150 dollars besides his farm and that those settlers who have been in the Townships 15 or 20 years are in very good circumstances.

Tuesday Evg. 6 o'clock, Octr. 29th Rode to Montgomery's tavern in a Canadian cart, 4 miles, found the bar room floor full of Canadians and others, asleep for the night by the fire, their usual mode of lodging paying 3d. each.

Wednesday 30th. Octr. Rode to the ferry across the St. Francis to cross over to Kingsey, found a tract of very large maple trees and seemingly fine gray and black soil. There are a few Indian and other settlers. The man at the ferry told me he had two years ago reaped thirty bushels of wheat from an acre of ground found the soil on opposite side much as usual; some red and grey earth and several farms in apparent good condition and some intelligent farmers, Capt. Cox I believe of the army has lately bought a farm here with an elegant house and appears to be making great improvements, employing several hands. He also owns a Grist Mill. Walking up to the Wadley settlement, I observed the woods on the opposite shore to be at entirely spruce, hemlock; going down to the settlement there is a wind mill not quite finished and a school house empty as indeed I was sorry to find almost every one I met with down from Montreal, but which I hope will not long be the case especially as I find the present Governor is instructed to pay particular attention to

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advancing education in the Provinces, and I observe there is an ordinance just published for the purpose.

The settlement consists of two stores and a few Canadian and other houses. Soil as usual ; returned to Mr. Abercrombies, at night fall, supped and slept there and spent a pleasant evening in the midst of a family of eleven children boys and girls. The father a middle aged, fine manly looking and loyal man descended remotely, probably from the "immortal Abercrombie" as the song says ; For Mr. Abercrombies' father came from Scotland and it is said that there is but one branch of the Abercrombie family. This man had very sound practical ideas on agriculture, I told him that Major Jones had informed me an American had discovered that the maggot which is deposited in the ear of the wheat after eating it up falls to the ground and remains thro' all winter, and then rises in the fly state ; and that if this was true it might probably be a good plan to burn the soil in the spring. He observed, that if he were even to do so, he should not be protected from his neighbours flies, which is true ; but if this burning were found to answer at all, it would be the interest of all his neighbours to burn their wheat lands before sowing also. There is an Episcopal minister lately settled at Kingsey and I believe a Church is to be built for him. Mr. Abercrombie informed me that there were a great many, say nigh 200 families of french Canadians settled in the Township, he did not think they would average more than 5 head cattle each farm. The American farmers here winter from ten to thirty head each.

Novr. 1st. This morning took a walk to see Capt.

Ployart's farm south west of Montgomery's found same soil as when going to the ferry, almost all hard wood chiefly beech. It is remarkable notwithstanding this hard wood, the soil has no appearance of much clay in its composition, but is rather loamy.

The woods I am told have never been cut down, tho' they would seem to have been, as the trees in general are small. A farmer, an Irish man on my asking him the cause informed me the old ones decayed and the young ones took their place just as we do ourselves, from which indeed a good *memento mori* may be drawn. This farmer had been here 19 years had a fine family of six or seven children, said he had taken 30 bushels wheat from an acre of new land. The present year expected about 18 bushels per acre, the wheat not being much rusted, had sown early, and as the Townships are not so much infected with the fly as the Seigneiories, it would perhaps be prudent to *sow* early. The Captain has a fine large clearance nigh 50 acres; cleared it in four years by hired labourers. He is an old German officer served in the British Army many years, and is a valuable settler for the Township. I am told he winters on this and other farms about 30 head cattle, has a Potashery and is building a neat brick cottage; seemed glad on buying a sett of my work on the Canadas.

Novbr. 2nd. Embarked from Montgomery's, to ride to Grantham 13 miles, with an old sergeant of the 49th regiment, General Brock's own. Here I beg leave to mention, that I had been several years at a school in England with three brothers of the name of Brock from Guernsey or Jersey, but till a few

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months ago never could ascertain whether our late celebrated General was from Jersey, or not, until my old school fellow, Colonel James Hughes, of the Indian Department at Montreal, told me the General was the same man that was at school with us, in Hoddesden and Wallham Abbey, England. And I must observe that all the three brothers were, when boys, of that demure and studious nature which might foretel manly and energetic characters, the late lamented and much honored General, particularly so. I trust a just emulation of his noble conduct will be felt by every future commander of a British Canadian Army, and may a speedy retribution attend the miserable wretch who lately insulted his remains. The sergeant with whom I rode to Grantham, was a right down old soldier, rather high against the Canadians, whom he seemed to consider as only competent for hewers of wood and drawers of water. The Township of Wickham, which we were passing, (which by the bye is far the most miserable township I have seen for soil and timber, at least along the road which is mostly woods.)

This Township and that of Grantham, as my guide informed me were mostly located by settlers from the British army, but the land being so poor and bad many of them have quit being unable to obtain a living, but the soil a few miles to west of the road is said to be good and hard timbered, and I had fallen in at Montgomery's with one gentleman settled in Wickham, who appeared contented with his location. If then, it really be the case, as is said that these poor soldiers were located in unproductive lots, it certainly was both unjust and impolitic on the part of those who had

the management of their location, since, if they deserved lands for their past services at all, they should have been good ones, in point of justice alone, and as to policy, this body of settlers if they had been well treated in this respect, would probably have been loyal and to be depended on by Government, in case of need, from either external or internal enemies.

The lands on the road to Grantham thro' Wickham appear indeed to be mere sand banks, deposited either at the general deluge or during a local one. On one part of the road, I observed a pit where some one had been digging out Clay which appeared strong and good and was pretty nigh the surface. It is possible therefore, that this clay underlays some part of these sandy lands, and when other lands in the adjoining Townships shall have become high in price, an efficient mode will then present itself of rendering Wickham and part of Grantham, fertile and strong, as probably no great number of loads of this clay carted on an acre of land, well ploughed in and harrowed would effect a great change; and as the clay is nigh at hand, this mode of manure would not be so costly as other kinds, for experience, as I have stated on pages 17 and 18 has clearly shewn that clay is by far the most productivemanure for sandy lands. The clay to be chosen for this purpose should be such as will break up easily with the plough and harrow, when ploughed into the sandy land. The village of Drummondville has two churches, one Episcopal and one Roman; heard a good discourse from Mr. Ross on Sunday 3rd November.

There is a Grist and Saw mill, two or three stores and two so so taverns, and a few English and Canadian

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houses. Col. Herriot has a tolerable house and large farm here.

Monday morning, Nov. 4.—Walked to see Col. Herriot's Farm, which his farmer told me consisted of nigh 1000 acres. He has a handsome farm-house and convenient buildings. There is a considerable quantity of cleared land round it, and much under the plough ; but it appears a very sandy soil, so much so, one would not expect even a good crop of oats in a very dry season ; and I have no doubt that oat crops would pay well to have this land clayed. There are I am informed clay banks in the neighbourhood and undoubtedly claying would not only ensure a good crop of oats in a dry season, but would increase it in rainy seasons, and the land would then be competent to produce as good wheat crops as any land whatever. It is true the Colonel is said to have raised a good crop of wheat on another part of his farm, which probably was a better quality soil, and the crop was not much rusted nor weavel eaten. But the advantages above mentioned would certainly repay the expense of claying these sandy soils. It is further to be observed that clay has been found to last on lands nigh thirty years which greatly diminishes the cost.

Passed on to Major Menzie's farm. The ploughed land, much the same nature and quality as the Colonels, uncommon sandy compared to all the Townships I have passed through. Yet it appears both the Major's and the Colonel's crops have been good, both for wheat and oats. There must be some cause for this effect which I presume to be, that finding their lands of this sandy nature, they have made up for that by plenty of



manure and better husbandry than is found in other parts of the Townships.

The Major told me he followed the rotation system of cropping, exactly. I observed to him I thought carting good clay on these sandy lands, if he had any not too far away, would be of much service. He said all the land below his house towards the river was a clay bank. I told him if he used it, it would probably prove a mine of wealth to him, as it had been found to be in England and in some parts of this Province. He said he knew claying sandy lands was good, and supposed about thirty loads to the acre would be enough. I observed that I should consider 2 to 300 loads was not too much and would pay, for it would last on the ground thirty years.

He said he had this spring sown four acres of this sandy land with  $2\frac{1}{2}$  bushels seed wheat per acre, and expected to get more than ten bushels to the acre, say twelve bushels. Of pease he said he had a most abundant crop on the same land.

Now, if the above field of wheat had been well clayed, ploughed and harrowed in, it is probable that it would have produced twenty to twenty-five bushels, perhaps more. The Major honored me by the purchase of a set of my work on the Canadas. Between Col. Herriott's and Major Menzie's there is a fine Saw Mill consisting of eleven saws. Pine logs only are sawed for the Quebec Market. This Saw Mill goes by water power of the Black River.

Nov. 5, Tuesday—Rode in a Canadian cart to Nicolet, 30 to 32 miles crossing the St. Francis a few miles below Drummondville. The soil on the road

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still very sandy ; nothing but soft wood in the woods ; a few miles after crossing the ferry found a mile or two better wood land, came to a Canadian tavern or rather house where they sold rum, being now in the seigniori of Courval owned by Moses Hart, of Three Rivers. The landlord said he paid him \$2 a year rent for 2 arpens by 30, is 60 arpens ; said he had sowed some wheat about one third of which is rusted, I observed the banks of the St. Francis a little below his farm appeared to consist of clay, and was told that there was clay on his land about four feet below the surface, told the man of the advantage that would arise to him from mixing some of this clay on his sandy soil to which he agreed. After quitting this house the road turns nigh East a few miles, and then Northward along the St. Francis ; entered a long savanne or swamp almost destitute of trees, the small ones that had grown appeared all withered. This savanne lays so level, and is I am informed under water in spring, that it will probably never be cultivable unless a great number of settlers or habitants go on it together ; they might then join in draining the lands. Should clay be found below the mossy black earth, the savanne might by mixing it with the burnt mossy surface and ploughing in and harrowing the clay, perhaps be made fertile.

At the end of the savanne the land appears to rise a little, and there are some habitant houses and farms, with some fine large and level fields just left in stubble, which the driver informed me had yielded good crops. After passing these we came to one of the concessions back of the St. Lawrence, and the land had changed to a strong greyish clay looking soil. There were some

fine large fields entirely clear of stones and stumps, and these habitants are said to be wealthy. Getting dark, could see no more of the country; but down the side line road to the concessions on the St. Lawrence, it was for some distance so sandy, the driver was obliged to walk his horses.

At nine o'clock arrived, and put up at the ferry farm house, opposite Nicolet, the first Canadian house I have put up at for some years.

Nov. 7th. Crossed the river Nicolet, in front of a handsome church, there are very few English settled in the town, tho' there is an English church. The seignior of the village, Colonel Chandler, who speaks French equally well as English, did me the honor to take a sett of my work. The college is a very large building and must have been built with a view to the future, for I am told much of it is unoccupied by the scholars and masters.

Nov. 8th. Rode to Port St. Francis, thro'a well settled country, mostly French Canadians, some are said to be wealthy; saw 40 to 50 sheep on one or two farms, soil strong and good looking, plenty of maple and "plaine," of which they make sugar here, and it is said to produce as much sap and sugar as maple, of which it is a species. Put up at Holdgate's tavern, a very genteel and comfortable one, in high English style, met with much kindness and attention from the landlord, plenty of travellers going up the country and over the river.

Port St. Francis is at the top of the deep water navigation of the river St. Lawrence; a 74 gun ship with all her munitions of war might lay alongside the wharf.

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A mile higher up, the river expands into the Lake St. Peter, with an intricate channel and shallow water. Viewed with these considerations, and also as being the only Port on the south shore of the St. Lawrence, for more than 100 miles, it is not too much to expect that at some future period Port St. Francis will become a place of importance. The land about it to some small extent has been purchased by the British Land Company, and is laid out into building lots. Whenever emigration to the Eastern Townships is resumed, Port St. Francis as the nearest point of debarkation, and as having the best roads of communication, will encrease in importance. It is already the stage and mail route, and the cost of transport per load to Melbourne, Sherbrooke, and other similar distances is one third less than via Sorel and St. Johns. Nearly the whole of the potash and other produce from those parts is shipped here.

Having now finished this narrative of my journey thro' these Townships, I shall here give a copy of a resolution that lately passed, in Quebec, on the subject of a road to the Townships; also, some observations on a meeting of the Merchants of this City, for adopting measures for procuring the speedy accomplishment of the Canal Navigation to form a junction with the Upper Canada Canal on the St. Lawrence, and conclude with some general observations on the advantages likely to result to the Townships from the same.

At the meeting on the subject of a direct road from Quebec to the Eastern Townships, the following resolution, being the 6th, was passed :

"That the leading road thro' the Townships of

Leeds, Ireland and Chester, first opened by the Military, under Sir James Craig, upon which settlement has subsequently taken place, was in some parts injudiciously carried straight over lofty hills which might in several instances have been avoided; in consequence of which the inhabitants in such localities, thinly scattered thereon, have never been able, and from the fruitless prospect of doing it with advantage, are little disposed to attempt to keep such portions in a state of repair; and they are fast relapsing into a state of nature and thereby rendered impassable.

“And that from the nature of the country thro’ which this road passes, it cannot be so advantageously made the main road from Quebec to the Eastern Townships, as the road leading from Richardson’s, in the Seignior of St. Giles, thro’ Ste. Croix, Nelson and Inverness, which latter road this meeting recommends with such slight deviations from its present line, as may be found expedient to avoid hills, swamps and other obstructions as far as may be practicable to do so.

Which resolution was passed with an amendment by Mr. Wickham.

There are to be applications to Government made on this subject by the Committee appointed by the above Meeting, and some of the Townships themselves. A gentleman at the meeting justly observed it was unreasonable to expect people to settle on lands when they had no road to get to them. The same gentleman instanced a remarkable case of the beneficial effects of opening roads in promoting settlement of lands. He had purchased a seignior in 1830, and had opened roads to it, while owners of the neighbouring seignio-

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ries had not done so, the consequence was that in his seigniory upwards of 150 lots were settled, while in the adjoining seigniories there were not 20.

As respects the old Craig road, it, in conjunction with the Dudswell road, leads so directly into the heart of the more Southern Townships of the St. Francis district, and will thus offer them the means of communication with the Quebec market, that there cannot be a doubt as these Townships increase in population and settlement, these roads will then be put and kept in good repair.

On the 27th March last, a very numerous and respectable meeting of the Merchants and Citizens of Quebec, without reference to politics, was held at the Exchange Room, in Quebec, to take into consideration what measures should be adopted to further the completion of the St. Lawrence and Chambly Canals, and other matters connected with the internal improvements of the British North American Colonies, the Hon. John Neilson, was called to the chair, who opened the meeting with a few remarks on the great advantages that would accrue to the country by the outlet for goods by the St. Lawrence, being facilitated, by which an immense trade now diverted into other channels would pass thro' Lower Canada.

Jas. Bell Forsyth, Esq., then addressed the meeting, and concluded with saying that the resolution he had the honor of being entrusted with was in the following terms :

“That in the opinion of this meeting, nothing will tend more to the public tranquillity of the Canadas, and the rapid improvement of Her Majesty's Possession in North America, than the continuation of the

St. Lawrence Canal in Lower Canada, the enlargement of the Welland Canal in the Upper Province, and the carrying into effect of the projected Canal between the Bay Verte and the Bay of Fundy, thus opening an uninterrupted inland communication of upwards of 3,000 miles."

The resolution was unanimously carried.

J. W. Woolsey, Esq., moved the 2nd resolution.

"That in the event of these great internal improvements taking place, the inhabitants of the neighbouring States living on the shores of Lakes Ontario, Erie, St. Clair, Huron, and Michigan, would naturally look at the St. Lawrence as the most economical high road to the sea, and from the immense extent of coast consequently opened to British commerce, would cultivate a trade that would be most beneficially felt by the manufacturing and shipping interests of the mother country as well as by these Provinces."

Mr. Bristow seconded the above resolution and supported it with appropriate remarks: resolution passed *nem. con.*

On motion of Ed. Glackemeyer, Esq., (who also made a few remarks,) seconded by Chs. Turgon, Esq., it was resolved—

"That a Committee of seven be named to take such steps as they may deem most proper for the furtherance of these great objects."

The following gentlemen were then, on motion of F. X. Paradis, Esq., seconded by Etienne Parent, Esq., appointed on the Committee:—Messrs. John Neilson, J. B. Forsyth, P. Pelletier, W. Bristow, E. Glackemeyer, James Gibb, and H. J. Noad.

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I shall now observe respecting these resolutions that in Chapter 2nd, No. 44 and 54, of my Work called, Considerations on the Canadas, I have pointed out some advantages which would accrue to Lower Canada from the completion of the St. Lawrence Canal, and it was with great satisfaction I found this measure approved of and supported by the respectable and intelligent commercial body of Quebec, the labours of whose Committee appointed for this purpose will, I ardently hope, meet with due success.

I have now to call the attention of the inhabitants of the Eastern Townships to the advantages which will probably result to them from the completion of this Canal, and also that of Chambly.

It is probable that in this case, Montreal and Quebec will become large depots of provisions of all kinds, and that the Trade to the West Indies will be carried on from these cities on a much larger scale than has been yet the case.

In my Considerations on the Canadas, of which I distributed five hundred copies in Montreal, and two hundred in the Eastern Townships, I have, in No. 2, given a chapter on the expediency of an application being made to the Home Government or to the Imperial Parliament for the exclusive supply of the British West India Islands and settlements, with wheat, flour, bread stuffs and salted provisions, &c., &c., whenever it shall be made evident to the British Government, that the mother country and the said North American Colonies are competent to furnish the full quantity of such supplies as are annually wanted for those West India Islands and settlements; to this

chapter then, I refer my readers inhabitants of the Eastern Townships who, I have no doubt, will concur in the reasonableness of this application, and in the great advantages which will probably result to these Provinces by this branch of Trade, if we can get it established.

The Eastern Townships are well calculated for producing all or most of the articles wanted to make up a well assorted cargo for the West India markets, especially salted provisions of all kinds. The Cities of Quebec and Montreal will therefore offer a valuable market to them in case the canals are completed and the above Trade to our West India Islands obtained.

And as it is probable these highly important concerns will be taken up by the United House of Assembly, which it is now very probable will have place; I would here earnestly recommend to the inhabitants of the Townships to choose, for their Representatives, men of sufficient commercial knowledge, and of general intelligence of the interests of the Province, as will lead them to support or advocate these measures which, I have not a doubt, will produce a general spirit of industry and enterprize in the Agriculture, Commerce, Trade and Navigation of these Provinces, and thereby ultimately confirm their tranquility security, prosperity and happiness.

HENRY TAYLOR.

ERRATA.—Page 24, line 13th, for "loyalty" read "loyally."  
 Page 28, line 21st, for "were" read "rode".  
 Page 32, line 25th, for page "24" read "29".  
 Page 57, line 5th, for "£2500 cy." read "£250 cy."  
 Page 70, line 26th, for "at entirely" read "almost entirely".

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